The Department of Natural Resources, in conjunction with the Arnot Teaching and Research Forest (the Arnot) and the Cornell Biological Field Station (CBFS), will offer 10 week undergraduate research internships during the summer of 2015. This program offers exciting opportunities for students to collaborate on research with mentor scientists conducting ecological investigations in a wide variety of ecosystems.

A SETTING FOR EXCELLENCE: You will live, and work with other interns at either the Arnot or CBFS. The Arnot is unique as a 4200+ acre working forested landscape near Ithaca that is dedicated to the department and university mission of teaching, research, and extension. Through research and extension, Arnot interns contribute to the improved management of forest-based natural resources in the Northeast.

The CBFS is a highly interactive, research-oriented environment. Studies currently at CBFS are aquatic based (fisheries, limnology, colonial water birds). Students will exchange ideas with each other, staff scientists, and Cornell campus faculty. The Cornell Biological Field Station is a well-equipped facility located on the south shore of Oneida Lake, NY. The Station is located 12 miles northeast of Syracuse, and is only a 20-minute commute to shopping centers, Hancock International Airport, and the Amtrak train station. The Field Station is recognized both nationally and internationally for its research accomplishments in basic and applied ecology.

For 2015, there will also be an avian ecology internship based at CBFS and a deer study at Fort Drum.

THE PROGRAMS: The objective of both programs is to provide students with hands-on experience in research and/or extension, including hypothesis formation, experimental design, data collection, and interpretation and presentation of results. Weekly seminars will explore current topics in ecology and the environment, and interns will have the opportunity to interact with guest speakers.

EXPECTATIONS: Each intern will be selected in program areas matching their interests and will be expected to: 1) work collaboratively with a selected mentor on an on-going research project; 2) participate in discussions and weekly seminars; and 3) enroll for research credit in the fall semester to prepare an oral presentation for a formal intern symposium and a final paper for inclusion in a department publication. A webinar may also be required.

Recent intern projects have included:

- Goby feeding preferences in Oneida Lake
- Carbon fluxes during storm events
- Study of Lake Ontario's deep chlorophyll layer
- Habitat preference of mink in upstate NY
- Cyanobacteria dynamics in Oneida Lake
- Finding sustainable strategies for woody biofuel harvest
- The conservation and tracking of Common Terns on Oneida Lake
- An analysis of light pollution on barn swallows
- Comparison of mink habitat and food selection
- Oneida Lake Education Initiative
- Tree regeneration at the Arnot Forest
- Length, age, and geographic distribution of round gobies in Oneida Lake and connecting water bodies

Successful candidates will begin the 10 week program on Monday, June 1, 2015. Students will receive a stipend of $4000 for the 10 week session. Housing is available at the Arnot or CBFS for the 10 week program at a cost of $300 for the 10 weeks. A security deposit of $100 must be submitted with the housing fee. Ithaca based students are responsible for securing their own housing. The program is open to all undergraduate students regardless of institution, but preference will be given to Cornell students when project funding is limited. Cornell interns are expected to enroll in three credit hours of independent studies in the fall semester to complete their summer research/extension project and a final paper and participate in the undergraduate research symposium.

TO APPLY: Applications for all programs can be downloaded from the CBFS website (see address below), completed (with resume and three (3) references) and e-mailed to JoAnne Getchonis - jgg4@cornell.edu. E-mail questions on the CBFS program to either Dr. Lars Rudstam (lgr1@cornell.edu), or Dr. Randy Jackson (jrj26@cornell.edu), or by phone, (315) 633-9243. Questions on the Arnot program can be directed to Dr. Peter Smallidge (pjs23@cornell.edu) or by phone at (607) 592-3640. Questions on the Ithaca based projects should be directed to Dr. Paul Curtis, pdc1@cornell.edu. Undergraduate freshman, sophomores, and juniors are eligible to apply.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 15, 2015

For more information on the Arnot or CBFS Program, check out our websites at http://www2.dnr.cornell.edu/arnot/ or www.cbfs.dnr.cornell.edu