

# Resources to find Experience with Animals

There are a vast number of opportunities to volunteer, work and intern with animals. Here are a few hints as to where to look for those opportunities and how to divide your search...

## Types of animals...

One way to search for career-related experience is to identify organizations that work with the animal that most interests you. Here is one way animal types can be categorized:

- Large Cats
- Farm Animals
- Domestic
- Amphibians
- Marine Mammals
- Reptiles
- Endangered/ Protected Species

## Some examples of animal-specific organizations:

Wolves

**Wolf Sanctuary** [www.wolfsanctuary.net](http://www.wolfsanctuary.net)

A non-profit organization that rescues wolves and educates others about them. They provide volunteer opportunities and are located in La Porte, CO.

Birds

**International Bird Rescue Resource Center** [www.ibrrc.org/contact.html](http://www.ibrrc.org/contact.html)

Mission is to mitigate human impact on aquatic birds and wildlife through rehabilitation, emergency response, education, research, planning and training. They offer job, internship and volunteer opportunities. Centers are located in Northern & Southern California and Alaska.

Big Cats

**Big Cat Rescue** [www.bigcatrescue.org/index.htm](http://www.bigcatrescue.org/index.htm)

A non-profit educational sanctuary located in Tampa, Florida. They offer opportunities to become a member, do an internship, become a volunteer and/or adopt a cat.

## Institutions that provides animal rescue, research & education...

A few examples:

**Association of Zoos & Aquariums** [www.aza.org/JobListings/](http://www.aza.org/JobListings/)

Website provides lists of internships and job openings at Zoos and Aquariums all over the country.

**Wildlife Waystation** [www.wildlifewaystation.org/common/page.php?ref=home](http://www.wildlifewaystation.org/common/page.php?ref=home)

This organization is dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and relocation of native wildlife and exotic animals. They offer volunteer opportunities in as many as nineteen areas within their non-profit and are located in Angeles National Forest, California.

## Organizations that work with and/or advocate for animal rights...

A few examples:

**Humane Society University** [www.humanesocietyu.org/about\\_hsu/](http://www.humanesocietyu.org/about_hsu/)

Look for the page dedicated to information on employment, volunteer and internship opportunities. Site includes a broad range of land animals from domestic and farm to wildlife.

**People for Ethical Treatment of Animals** [www.peta.org/about/volunteer.asp](http://www.peta.org/about/volunteer.asp)

PETA offers many ways to get involved with animal advocacy in their organization including becoming a member, volunteering, interning, or working.

**Emergency Animal Rescue** [www.emergencyanimalrescue.org/index.html](http://www.emergencyanimalrescue.org/index.html)

A non-profit organization based in San Diego that specializes in the physical rescue of animals in life threatening situations. Offers the opportunity to become a member and trained volunteer.

**The Nature Conservancy** [www.nature.org/careers/](http://www.nature.org/careers/)

Focused on preserving animals by protecting the water and lands they need for survival. Look for the database of organizations, listed by state, that share this same goal.

## Other places to investigate for experience...

Consider exploring options to work with animals in pet shops, animal sitting, circuses, the entertainment business, etc. in geographic areas where you are able to work.

## Local (Humboldt County) organizations...

In addition to these local resources, try **Springboard**...It is our number one source from campus for local employers [www.myinterfase.com/hsu/student/home.aspx](http://www.myinterfase.com/hsu/student/home.aspx)

### Sequoia Park Zoo

[www.sequoiaparkzoo.net/](http://www.sequoiaparkzoo.net/)

Zoo Crew year-round program offers the opportunity to take part in feeding, observing, cleaning and handling animals. There are also opportunities for demonstrations, tours and special events. Internships also available in zoo education.

### Sequoia Park Zoo Foundation

[www.sequoiaparkzoo.net/](http://www.sequoiaparkzoo.net/)

Internships available in zoo administration. Check Springboard or contact the Sequoia Park Zoo Foundation for more information at (707) 442.5649, or at [info@sequoiaparkzoo.net](mailto:info@sequoiaparkzoo.net)

### Sequoia Humane Society

[www.sequoiahumane.com/](http://www.sequoiahumane.com/)

Opportunities as dog walkers, kitty companions, kennel assistants, dog behavior and socialization, foster care providers, shelter buddies, off-site adoptions, Tailwaggers Gift Shop helpers, special events assistants, drivers, adoption counselors, office assistants.

### Heart of the Redwoods Horse Rescue

<http://redwoodrescue.org/>

A non-profit located in Cutten dedicated to promoting responsible horse ownership. They list a varying degree of volunteer opportunities with their organization; as well as, educational programs about horse rescue and care.

### Companion Animal Foundation

[www.animal-foundation.org/index.htm](http://www.animal-foundation.org/index.htm)

Opportunities to work with the SNAP (Spay/Neuter Assistance) Program, Adoption Program, Thrift Store, the Kids Care Kitty Care, and special events.

### Marine Wildlife Care Center

<http://humboldt.edu/~mwcc/>

In the event of an oil spill on the North Coast, this center located on the Humboldt State Campus cares for oiled seabirds.

### Friends for Life Animal Rescue

[www.dogrescuers.org/](http://www.dogrescuers.org/)

A non-profit that works with shelters and other rescuers to find homes for abandoned animals. Offers volunteer opportunities.

### Miranda's Rescue

[www.mirandasrescue.org/](http://www.mirandasrescue.org/)

Located in Fortuna, this animal rescue has over 40 volunteers and rescues mainly cats and dogs.

## Broad Internship Databases...

Be sure to look for broad internship databases that may have internships working with animals. Here are a few to get you started.

- Princeton Review [www.princetonreview.com/cte/search/internshipAdvSearch.asp](http://www.princetonreview.com/cte/search/internshipAdvSearch.asp)
- Idealist [www.idealists.org/](http://www.idealists.org/)

## HSU Career Center Resources...

The Career Center is full of services designed to meet your needs. Take advantage of these opportunities for free while you are a student and for 3 months after you graduate.

### One on One Assistance

- Visit **Walk-in Hours** at the Career Center  
Monday thru Friday 10am-2pm for 15 min sessions without an appointment. Good for quick questions.
- Meet with an **Internship Peer Advisor (IPA)**.  
IPAs are trained students that assess your internship readiness, offer you resources, make an initial resume critique and guide you through the application process. IPAs work with freshman and sophomore students and/or students who have never had career-related experience. You can make an appointment by e-mailing [ipa@humboldt.edu](mailto:ipa@humboldt.edu) or calling (707) 826-3341
- Make an appointment with a **Career Counselor**.  
If you have already had one or more internships or if you are a senior or grad student, seek assistance from a Career Counselor, who can also help you in looking for a full-time job or getting into graduate or professional school. You can make an appointment by calling (707) 826-3341.

### Internship Directories in the Career Center Library

*Short-Term Job Adventures* by Michael Landes

*Ferguson Career Resource Guide to Internships and Summer Jobs*

*Working with Animals* by Victoria Pybus (check out North American section)

### Career Center and IPA Web Sites

[www.humboldt.edu/~career](http://www.humboldt.edu/~career)

[www.humboldt.edu/~career/ipa/](http://www.humboldt.edu/~career/ipa/)