

PARKNAME: Carlsbad Caverns National Park

STATE: NM

Alpha Code: CAVE

Position Title: Geologist

Job Description:

The participant will conduct field mapping onto aerial photographs and topographic maps at a scale of 1:24,000. This includes measuring stratigraphic sections, bedding attitudes, fault orientations, and other measurements. The participant will use a GPS to identify the locations of measured sections, geologic contacts, fault locations, and other field measurements. The participant will also use GPS to georeference measured sections and field study sites from previous published studies.

The work will involve hiking over rugged desert terrain in a variety of conditions that may include a wide temperature range (40-100 degrees, depending on time of year), high winds, and inclement weather. Elevations may range from 3,000 to 5,000 feet.

Time Frame: Flexible (minimum four weeks).

Qualifications:

Applicants should be advanced undergraduate or graduate students whose educational background and career objectives are in geology. Applicants must have completed basic undergraduate course work toward a degree in geology, and must have some experience with basic geologic field mapping techniques. Applicants must be able to read topographic maps and be able to navigate unmarked terrain using a compass, maps, and aerial photographs. Students who plan to pursue geology as a career, or those with a strong interest in field geology or carbonate geology, are encouraged to apply. Professional level applicants are also welcome to apply. The applicant should be able to work well independently and be comfortable working solo in rugged, sometimes remote terrain (a field radio will be supplied and must be carried by all personnel working in the backcountry).

Housing:

Housing will be provided within the park in a shared house or apartment. The housing may require sharing a room. A personal vehicle is recommended; the nearest grocery and other shopping is located in the city of Carlsbad, 30 minutes from the park.

Park Geology:

Carlsbad Caverns National Park is a World Heritage Site and includes part of one of the best preserved Permian-aged reef complexes in the world. The rock has preserved an

ancient sponge-algal reef and the environments associated with the reef. The park also contains Carlsbad Caverns, one of most spectacular caves in the world.

Location:

Carlsbad Caverns National Park is located 27 miles from the city of Carlsbad, New Mexico. This southwestern area has a semi-arid climate, warm summers and mild winters; abundant sunshine; low relative humidity; approximately 12 inches average rainfall; at an altitude of 3279 feet. All services and shopping facilities are available. More information about the park can be found at <http://www.nps.gov/cave>

Primary Contact (person who will directly supervise the GIP):

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