



Internship Position

## Summary of Water Trails Economic Impact - Research and Categorization

### Position Responsibilities

The RMS Intern will be asked to collect available surveys, reports, assessments and other evidence of water trails economic impact published in 2012, 2013 and 2014; summarize the metrics and results; and identify key findings in a report and presentation.

### Position Need

Water trails have been developed to raise awareness for and promote water recreation, to redevelop or replace economic drivers in both rural and urban waterways, and to connect people to and engender stewardship of their water resources. A need exists for better quantification of the economic and ecosystem value of water trails. The National Park Service is interested in learning more about the tangible and measurable ways water trails have impacted communities (i.e., conservation, recreation access, and economic, social, environmental, and health benefits) to advise current and future water trails leaders and managers.

### Tasks

1. Meet with RMS and NPS to agree on a process, timeline and deliverables.
2. Identify and agree upon primary and secondary resources for review (i.e., reports that may be shared but may not be discoverable online. These may include economic impact studies produced by a consultant, a city parks department annual report, or a staff update reported to a state or county tourism board at a monthly meeting.)
3. Identify all water trails performance or evaluation metrics and highlight common metrics and appropriate metrics for evaluating the benefits of water trails.
4. Summarize key findings in concise format.
5. Categorize findings based on management, on-water experience, access, and amenities, as feasible.
6. Prepare a report with documented sources for data, which may include quotations, research verbatim, illustrations, infographics, and illustrative videos.
7. Develop and present the summary, key findings and recommendations to NPS and RMS managers.

### Location

Remote, at RMS office in Takoma Park, MD and at National Park Service Washington, DC office

### Timeline

January - April, 2015

### Stipend

\$1,800 paid in one-third installments at the agreed-upon completion of Steps 1-2, 3-4, and 5-6. Lodging is not included.

If you are interested in this position, please email a letter of interest and your resume to [rms@river-management.org](mailto:rms@river-management.org) by December 19, 2014. Thank you for your consideration.