



# INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FROM THE TEXAS COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

**Division:** Economic Growth and Endangered Species Management (EGESM)

**Internship Type:** Unpaid, but we are willing to help you obtain course credit. 1Ls are welcome to apply.

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### What does the EGESM Division do?

The EGESM Division serves in a leadership role on the state and national levels to increase transparency and stakeholder involvement in the species listing process and to encourage, develop, and implement practical, effective, science-based solutions to Endangered Species Act (ESA) challenges. We work collaboratively with other state agencies, universities, local communities, and industry stakeholders to involve states in ESA plans and activities to facilitate effective conservation solutions.

We work on ESA-related issues in three areas:

- **Gathering new data:** We administer \$15 million in state legislative appropriations to fund research at state universities on species of interest where little is known and there are potential economic impacts of listing. Research discussions and updates are also provided to stakeholder workgroups.
- **Assisting affected entities and stakeholders:** We assist governmental entities and communities in complying with ESA regulations as effectively and cost efficiently as possible.
- **Managing conservation plans:** We manage the Texas Conservation Plan for the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard. This 30-year program offers participants the opportunity to implement conservation measures for the lizard with regulatory certainty while operating in the species' habitat in the Permian Basin.

### What will you do as an intern in this division of the Comptroller's Office?

- Work with Division Director Dr. Robert Gulley, a neurobiologist, attorney, and author of over 35 scientific papers and six papers on legal and environmental issues.
- Perform hands-on legal research to support development of comments on ESA regulatory programs. Examples of programs and policies of interest include:
  - U.S. Department of Interior regulatory reform initiatives and mitigation policies, and
  - Regulations for conservation plans and critical habitat designation
- Monitor federal committees and hearings related to natural resources, endangered species, infrastructure, and agriculture programs.
- Work with division staff to interact with state, federal, and industry partners in coordinating regulatory comments and initiatives.
- Assist in planning and conducting meetings with stakeholders related to the monarch butterfly program and other species and policy issues as needed.

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