



UC SANTA BARBARA
Natural Reserve System

DIRECTOR, SANTA CRUZ ISLAND RESERVE

Apply by August 4th, 2025 for primary consideration

The [Natural Reserve System](#) (NRS) at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), invites applications for the position of **Director of Santa Cruz Island Reserve** (SCIR). The SCIR Director is responsible for the leadership and day-to-day operations of the Reserve/Field Station in service of its mission of supporting research, education, and public service to contribute to the understanding and wise stewardship of the Earth. This includes facilitating research and education, administration, budgeting, purchasing, personnel, health and safety, facilities management, and interactions with reserve donors, stakeholders, and partners. The expectation is the SCIR Director will predominantly be in residence at SCIR. Flexibility for part-time residence in the Santa Barbara/Ventura/Oxnard areas can be discussed. Housing at, and transport to, SCIR is provided.

SCIR is located on beautiful Santa Cruz Island (the largest of the Channel Islands) in Santa Barbara County, due south of the City of Santa Barbara, and twenty miles west of Ventura. SCIR is operated through cooperative agreements with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and the National Park Service (NPS) – Santa Cruz Island’s two landowners. Located on TNC property, SCIR facilities include 9 buildings, 40 beds of overnight housing, a microwave and weather repeater system, an internet network, vehicles, equipment, freshwater system, a wastewater system, and solar power. SCIR is part of the UCSB NRS and operates within the UCSB Office of Research and the larger UC-wide NRS. The responsibilities of the position are year-round, weather-independent, and full time. For more information about SCIR, visit <http://santacruz.nrs.ucsb.edu/>.

Stakeholders of the reserve include donors, volunteers, user groups, state and federal agencies, programmatic partners, as well as the two main landholders on the island (TNC and NPS). Each year, around 1,000 unique users (accounting for over 3,500 user days) visit SCIR. Users include international researchers, university classes, outreach groups, volunteers, and K-12 school groups.

The SCIR Director is responsible for programmatic and facilities planning and implementation. The Director is also responsible for working with the UCSB Development Office to cultivate and maintain relationships with current and prospective donors. The SCIR Director reports to the UCSB NRS Executive Director, and interacts regularly with the SCIR Faculty Advisors, the UCSB NRS Faculty Director, the UCSB NRS Campus Office, and the UCSB Development Department.

The successful candidate will be self-sufficient and have a high level of initiative. A doctorate in a field science related to the scope of SCIR research operations (including, but not limited to, ecology, anthropology, biology, environmental science, or geology) is preferred, but not required.

The SCIR Director must be prepared to utilize university provided facilities on Santa Cruz Island as needed to support SCIR activities. The SCIR Director has a highly altered work schedule which includes being on call outside of normal business hours. Travel is required to locations including to and from Santa Cruz Island via commercial boat, and outside of UCSB campus and Santa Cruz Island for meetings several times per year. Employee must be physically fit to perform Reserve management tasks.

Compensation commensurate with experience in the range of \$85,400 to \$110,000/year and UC benefits. Housing at, and transport to, SCIR is provided.

Apply Online & Full Job Description:

https://careerspub.universityofcalifornia.edu/psc/ucsb/EMPLOYEE/HRMS/c/HRS_HRAM_FL.HRS_CG_SEARCH_FL?Page=HRS_APP_JBPST_FL&Action=U&FOCUS=Applicant&SiteId=31&JobOpeningId=79628&PostingSeq=1 (Job ID 79628)

For primary consideration apply by end of day Monday August 4th, 2025 (this differs from what the UCSB online posting lists as the review date). Thereafter open until filled.

Please contact the Executive Director of the UCSB Natural Reserve System, Conner Philson (philson@ucsb.edu), with any questions.

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity Employer