

Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program

2022 Annual Report



The mission of the Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program is to engage, inspire, and support diversity in the next generation of fisheries and aquatic specialists.

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What Is the Hutton Program?

The Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program (Hutton Program) is an educational program sponsored by the American Fisheries Society (AFS) for high school students. The principal goal of the Hutton Program is to recruit high school students from traditionally underrepresented communities in the fisheries profession and introduce them to the field of fisheries and aquatic science.

The Hutton Program is a paid summer internship and mentoring program for rising 11th graders through graduating high school seniors interested in pursuing science disciplines associated with natural resource and environment management. Under the Hutton Program, selected students benefit from an 8-week, hands-on fisheries science summer experience in a marine and/or freshwater setting.

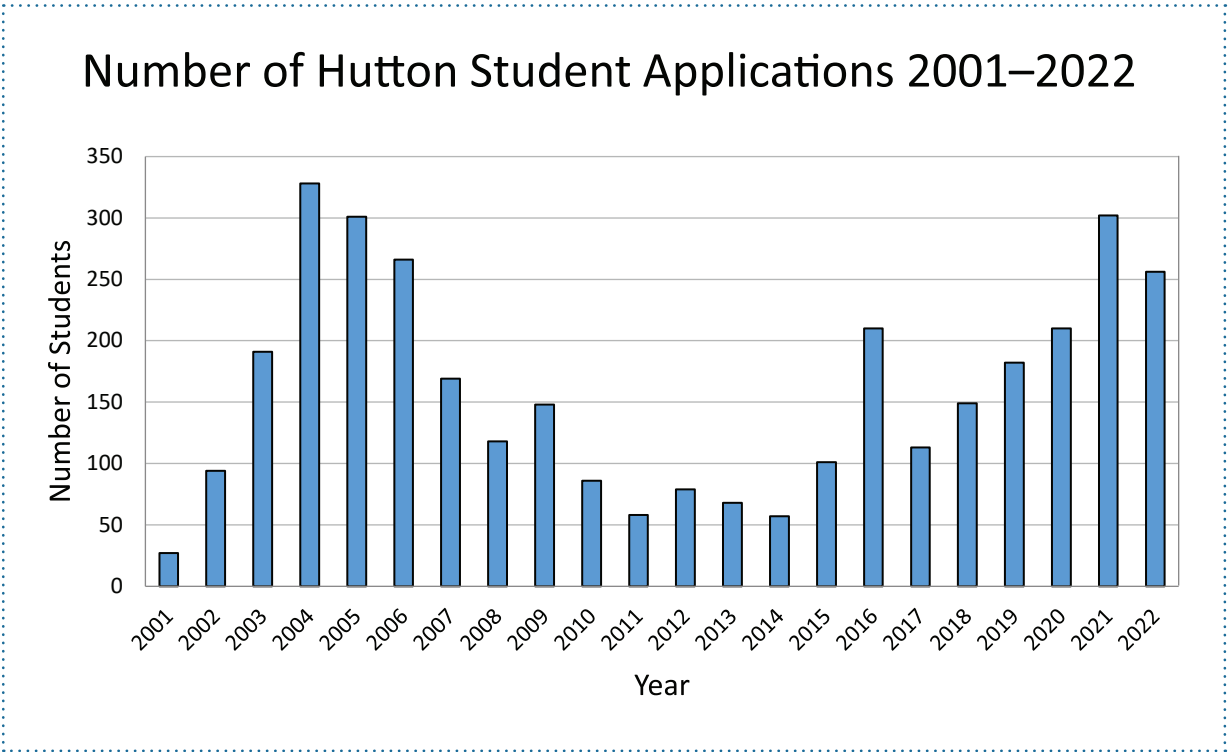
Students receive \$3,000 over the course of their 8-week internship. The program has offered scholarships to 750 Hutton scholars (52% minority students and 58% female students) mentored by an estimated 780 mentors associated with more than 250 institutions. Students are matched with qualified mentors (university scientists, researchers working at private, tribal, federal, or state laboratories and field stations) who provide guidance, instruction, and evaluation on work activities. The Hutton Program provides its students with hands-on activities that increase awareness of conservation issues, the importance of healthy aquatic systems, and career opportunities in fisheries. As the students work with their mentors, they gain an awareness of conservation issues and the importance of healthy aquatic systems. On a daily basis, students are participating in projects relevant to fisheries science, habitat protection and restoration. By the end of the summer, the students have an understanding of what is involved in being a fisheries biologist and the career opportunities available in the field of fisheries science.

The Hutton Program is always looking for more program partners. Program partners are guaranteed a student placement in their organization if there are qualified student applicants in their geographical area. They also receive a personalized final report at the end of their Hutton Scholar's internship term. The cost associated with being a program partner is \$5,000 per student, with \$3,000 going directly towards the student's stipend, \$1,000 allocated for the Hutton Scholar's Summit, and \$1,000 to cover the administrative costs of running the program. If you are interested in becoming a program partner, please contact the AFS Education Program Coordinator (hutton@fisheries.org).

2001–2022 Student Data Trends

Total Hutton Program applications received

During the 22 years that the Hutton Program has been operating, it has received an average of 160 student applications every year. In recent years, there has been an increase in the average number of applications per year, with the past 5 years averaging 220 applications. In 2022, the program received 256 applications.



The overall number of applications received each year for the Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program.

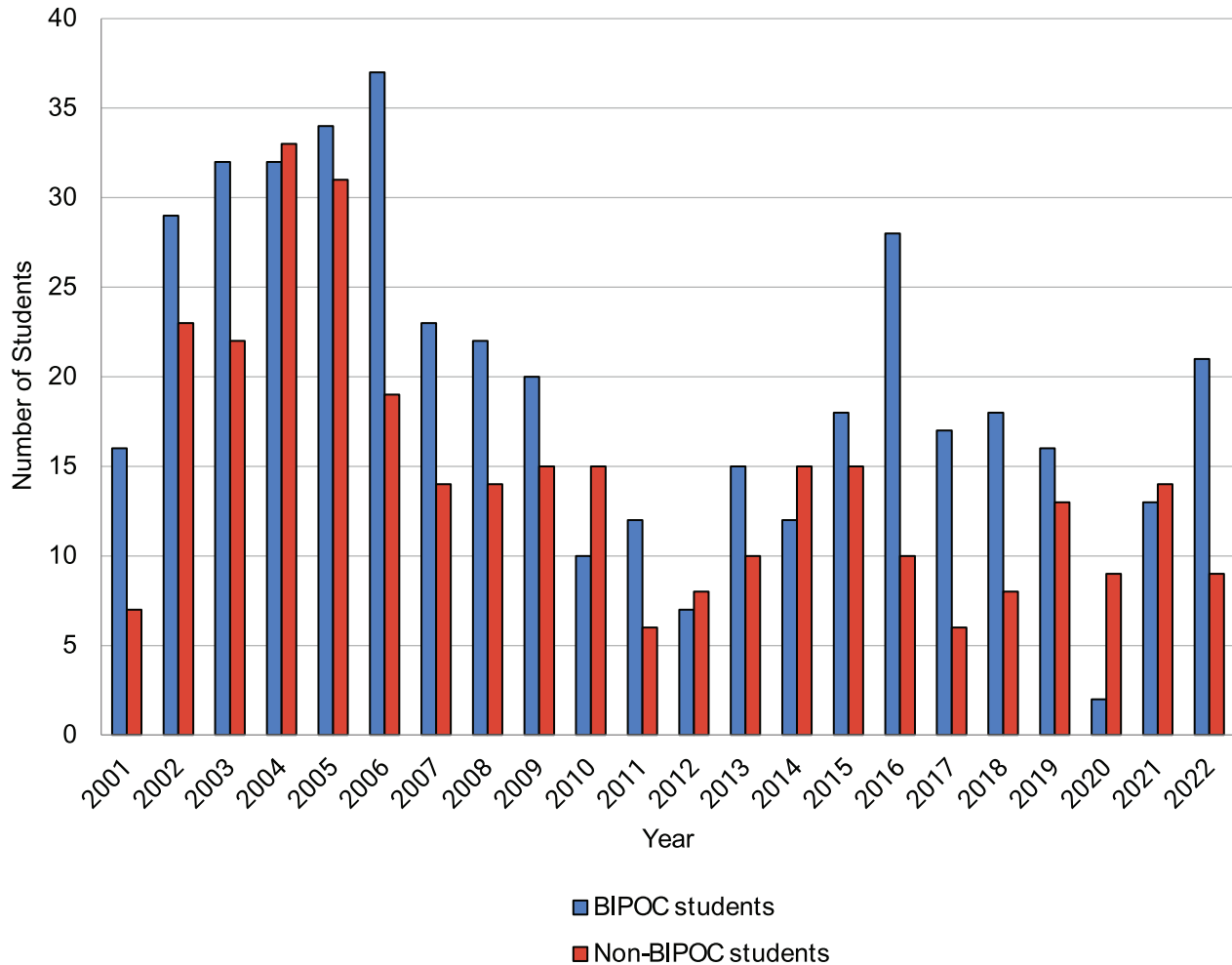
Diversity in the Hutton Program

In line with the program mission, Hutton aims to recruit diverse classes of Hutton Scholars every year. In 2022, 70% of selected students identified as members of the BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of color) community, 56% of students were female, and 3% of students identified as a third gender.

2001–2022 Mentor Data Trends

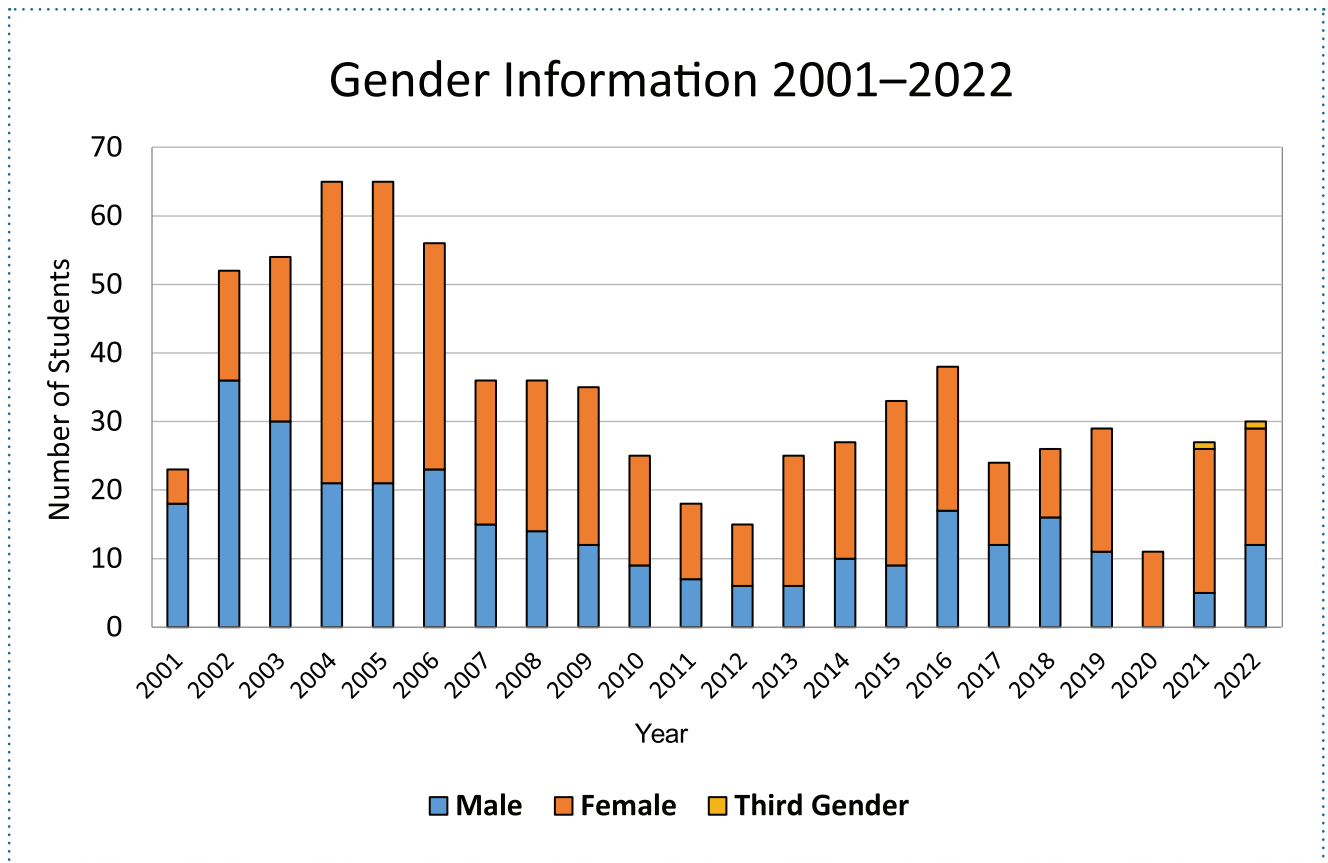
Over the past 22 years, we have placed Hutton Scholars with more than 780 mentors from across the United States, Mexico, and Canada who specialize in a variety of disciplines with-

Diversity in the Hutton Program 2001–2022



The overall trend of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of color) Hutton Scholars versus non-BIPOC Hutton Scholars over the past 22 years of the program.

in the fisheries profession. Our mentors work with state and federal agencies, nonprofits, tribal organizations, and everything in between. In a recent survey conducted in 2020, 72% of Hutton Program alumni from 2010 to 2019 said that the Hutton Program either influenced or enhanced their decision to study fisheries or a related topic in college. Our mentors play a vital role in inspiring Hutton Scholars to continue on a path into the fisheries and aquatic sciences profession.



The overall gender identity of Hutton Scholars over the past 22 years of the program.

2001–2022 Hutton mentor federal agency employees	Number of mentors	Percentage of mentors
U.S. Forest Service	130	50%
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	49	19%
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	36	14%
Bureau of Land Management	28	11%
U.S. Geological Survey	16	6%
Other	12	5%
National Parks Service	7	3%

2001–2022 Hutton mentor place of work	Percentage of mentors
State agency	42%
Federal agency	37%
College or university	26%
Tribal fisheries	7%
Private industry	4%
Nonprofit	4%
City municipality	1%

- The American Fisheries Society partners with various state and federal agencies to fund the placement of Hutton Scholars within their organization. In 2022, these agencies included

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 Bureau of Land Management
 U.S. Forest Service
 Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
 Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Resources
 Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

- Of the 39 state agencies who have participated in the Hutton Program, top placements have been with

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
 Idaho Department of Game and Fish
 Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
 Missouri Department of Conservation
 Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
 Arizona Game and Fish Department
 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
 Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks
 Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries

2022 Hutton Program Overview

The summer of 2022 marked the 22nd year that the Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program offered high school students the opportunity to work alongside fisheries professionals. The 22nd Hutton Program class included 30 Hutton Scholars placed in 18 U.S. states as well as Puerto Rico. Hutton Scholars worked alongside biologists from nine different state agencies, five federal agencies, five universities, and two nongovernmental organizations. Students participated in unique internship experiences, including mussel surveys, native fish surveys, electrofishing, environmental DNA sampling, and data collection and analysis. All 30 students successfully completed the term of their internships.

Hutton Scholar Summit

The Hutton Program hosted the second annual Hutton Scholar Summit, July 17–20, at Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana. Twenty-two students from 16 states came together for two full days of career panels, networking, scientific presentations, and field trips to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Fish Tech Center and the Trout Unlimited Dry Creek Restoration site. During the summit, Hutton Scholars heard from four different speakers representing the private, government, nonprofit, and academic sectors. This career panel allowed students to learn about different career paths and how they work together and received advice on how to be successful in fisheries. Students were given the opportunity to ask questions and engage with the fisheries professionals. Each student gave a five-minute presentation on the work they completed over their internship in front of their student cohort and AFS members from Montana State University. Members from AFS student subunits and leadership were on hand to connect with the Hutton Scholars and share ways that AFS has shaped both their academic and professional careers. The Hutton Scholar Summit aided in introducing the Hutton Scholars to a university with an expansive fisheries program and creating connections between AFS members and themselves.

Hutton Pen Pal Program

The Hutton Scholars were connected with AFS students and early career professionals as part of the Hutton Pen Pal Program. Volunteers are paired with a student to act as “pen pals” over the summer, acting as an additional resource for scholars during the term of their internship, with many staying connected as they pursue a degree in fisheries. AFS member volunteers are encouraged to ask the Hutton Scholar questions about their interest in fisheries, what they enjoy about their internship, and future plans for college or a career path. It acts as a great way for Hutton Scholars to connect with students and professionals currently working in the field of fisheries and aquatic sciences.

Funding Partners

The 2022 Hutton Program received donations and funding from state and federal agencies, Montana State University, AFS units, and individual donors. AFS units and individual donors contributed \$23,749 in support of the Hutton Program, which supported three Hutton students and the Hutton Scholar Summit. Unused funds will be rolled into the 2023 Hutton Program. Program partners included the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, NOAA, Texas Parks and Wildlife, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, and the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. The Montana State University Diversity and Inclusion Office provided \$5,000 in support of the Hutton Scholar Summit at the university, which allowed AFS to cover the costs of attending the summit for 22 students from across the country. Through the generous support of Hutton donors, AFS was able to support 30 students in unique, live-changing internship experiences in fisheries. If your organization is interested in supporting the Hutton Program in any capacity, please contact the Education Program Coordinator at hutton@fisheries.org.

Hutton Committee

The Hutton Oversight Committee is a standing AFS membership committee tasked with the role to strengthen and support the Hutton Program through new ideas, goals, and support of the Society. Hutton Oversight Committee Co-Chairs Karlisa Callwood and Dr. Kathy Guidon led the 2022 Hutton Committee through the hiring of a new Education Program Coordinator during the Hutton student selection process. The co-chairs also worked with AFS President Leanne Roulson to update the Hutton procedures so that they could be added to the AFS Procedures Manual. This work was an important step to ensure consistency within the program for years to come.



2022 Hutton Program Participants

Student name	Mentor name	Host institution
Ahnya McCleod	Tomas Ivasauskas	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Akshaya Mohan	Cynthia Fox	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Ananya Karthikeyan	Bethany Yates	California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Back Bay Science Center
Andrew Zhang	Jim Long, Ashley Nealis	Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation
Anna Poydock	Justin Davis	Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Antonio Oestereich	Kathy Guindon, Joshua Patterson	Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, University of Florida
Asa Chism	Dr Kendal Moles	Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
Ashvi Shah	Jacqueline Padilla-Gamino	University of Washington
Azalea Bailey	Rich Pendleton	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Estevan Torres	Dr. Robert Mayer	U.S. Forest Service
Hadia Khatri	Dan Bennett	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Hailey Gerdts	Katherine Cory	Columbia Springs
Janay Scott	Julian Olden	University of Washington
Jerris Mann	Jason Cangelosi	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Student name	Mentor name	Host institution
Karen Rojas	Nicolas Rivas, Rolando Santos Corujo	Florida International University
Kristina Nguyen	Bethany Yates	California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Back Bay Science Center
Kyle Kim	Yoichiro Kanno	Colorado State University
Laken Bunn	Dylan Hann	Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
Landon Cunningham	Yoichiro Kanno	Colorado State University
Lila Grace Haag	Angela Burrow of Kentucky	U.S. Forest Service, University
Mia Knoll	Mr. Chance Broderius	Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
Noah Haas	Daragh Deegan and Utilities	City of Elkhart, Public Works
Noah Manning	Dr. Michelle Dana Staudinger	U.S. Geological Survey, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Norah Bruce	Zanethia Barnett, Susan Adams	U.S. Forest Service
Raymond Prah	Amy L. Fesnock, Clint Helms	Bureau of Land Management
Rayna Ponessa	Christina Stuart	Bureau of Land Management
Rebecca Acros	Austin Davis, Zoe Nichols	San Antonio River Authority
Siomara Sanchez	Desiree Tommasi	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Steven Huber II	Matt Wegener	Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission
Taryn Weller	Greg Wanner	U.S. Forest Service

2022 Hutton Supporters



U.S. Forest Service



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association



Bureau of Land Management



Missouri Department of Conservation



AFS Education Section



Arkansas Game and Fish Commission



Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Resources



Texas Parks and Wildlife Department



Montana State University Diversity and Inclusion Office

Congratulations on Another Great Year, Hutton!

