



PUBLIC LANDS STEWARDS 2019 FACT SHEET

Background: The Public Lands Stewards program began in 2006 on the Entiat Ranger District –Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest. At that time, the program was coordinated by the Northwest Service Academy. In 2012, Mt. Adams Institute took over the program.

Overview: The Public Lands Stewards program is designed to support the agency’s natural resource management objectives and provide participants with career development experience. Public Lands Stewards’ responsibilities can vary depending on the need of the local site and have included: wilderness monitoring, visitor education, trail maintenance and log-out, invasive fish surveying, environmental education and other support activities. Local sites determine the specific position responsibilities.

Participants: Public Lands Stewards are adults, ages 21-30, interested in public lands careers and environmental stewardship. Participants typically have college degrees and relevant personal/professional experience. Many utilize this experience as a stepping stone into environmental, conservation, and public lands management careers.

Participant Benefits: Participants receive a \$300 weekly stipend, a \$3,047 AmeriCorps Education Award, food stamps (optional), student loan deferment, skills and professional network development.

Term of Service: 25 weeks – approximate 2019 dates are May 6th to October 25th. Other start dates available on a case by case basis.

Cash Match: Sites contribute a cash match of \$11,944.44 for the entire term.

Public Lands Corps Affiliated: Mt. Adams Institute is a member of the Corps Network and a 21st Century Conservation Service Corps (21CSC) program.

Training: Public Lands Stewards begin their service with a one-week training (May 6-10) at the Mt. Adams Institute located on the Mt. Adams Ranger District compound. Potential training topics include: Wilderness 101, risk management/emergency protocols, crosscut saw, LNT principles and First Aid/CPR. Agency personnel are invited to participate and facilitate specific trainings. MAI staff will conduct site visits with the members and supervisors in late June and early July. A mid-summer week long training event will occur August 26th – 30th. This training focuses on career development and maximizing the internship experience. *NOTE: this training schedule is for the May 6th start only*

Recruitment: Partnering agencies and programs determine the specific position responsibilities. Mt. Adams Institute staff coordinates position marketing and applicant recruitment. Partners select the best candidate from a screened pool of applicants.

Past Partners: Gifford Pinchot NF Mt. Adams Ranger District, Okanogan Wenatchee NF Entiat Ranger District and Chelan Ranger District, Mt. Hood NF Barlow Ranger District, Fish and Wildlife Service Conboy NWR and Columbia NWR, Oregon State Parks, Pacific Northwest Trail Association, Willamette Resources and Educational Network, Cascade Mountain School

Positions Available: Mt. Adams Institute has 10 Public Lands Stewards positions available in 2019.

Agreement: Mt. Adams Institute operates the Public Lands Stewards program under a Regional Participating Agreement between the Forest Service and the Mt. Adams Institute. A Supplemental Project Agreement (SPA) template and financial plan already exist for the 2018 season. For other organizations, Mt. Adams Institute has the ability to enter into a variety of partnership agreements.

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