



## PUBLIC LANDS STEWARDS 2020 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 \$350 weekly stipend, a \$3,097 AmeriCorps Education Award, food stamps (optional), student loan deferment, skills and professional network development.

**Term of Service:** 25 weeks – approximate 2020 dates are May 4<sup>th</sup> to October 28<sup>th</sup>. Other start dates available on a case by case basis.

**Cash Match:** Sites contribute a cash match of \$13,351.61 for the entire term.

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

**Training:** Public Lands Stewards begin their service with a one-week training (May 4-8) 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 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>. This training focuses on career development and maximizing the internship experience.

**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.

## 2019 PUBLIC LANDS STEWARDS POSITIONS

### Partner:

Okanogan Wenatchee NF Entiat Ranger District  
Okanogan Wenatchee NF Chelan Ranger District  
Okanogan Wenatchee NF Cle Elum Ranger District  
Okanogan Wenatchee NF Methow Ranger District  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Conboy NWR and Columbia NWR  
Oregon State Parks  
Willamette Resources and Educational Network  
Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge  
Cascade Mountain School

### Position

Wilderness Backcountry Ranger  
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Wilderness Backcountry Ranger  
Refuge Technician  
Coastal Resources Intern  
Environmental Education Specialist  
Refuge Technician  
Outdoor School Educator

**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 2020 season. For other organizations, Mt. Adams Institute has the ability to enter into a variety of partnership agreements.

### Contact:

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