



VETSWORK AMERICORPS POSITION DESCRIPTION



POSITION TITLE: Biological Science Technician

PROJECT SPONSOR: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Columbia River Gorge National Fish Hatchery Complex

SERVICE DATES: 45 weeks (10 ½ months) from date of enrollment

PROJECT LOCATION: Spring Creek Fish Hatchery 62301 WA-14, Underwood, WA and Little White Salmon National Fish Hatchery, 56961 WA-14, Cook, WA



POSITION SUMMARY: In partnership with the Mt. Adams Institute, the Columbia River Gorge National Fish Hatchery Complex has an opportunity for a fish hatchery biological science technician to assist with all aspects of salmon production at the Spring Creek National Fish Hatchery.

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES (TO INCLUDE, BUT NOT LIMITED TO):

1. Provides standard feeds to fish according to specific schedules following established protocol for that particular species, age, and stage of development
2. Observes fish to monitor their behavior and appearance for signs of stress or disease
3. Cleaning and maintaining fish raceways
4. Spawning adult fish
5. Collecting and entering data, including water quality, fish feed provided, numbers of dead fish, etc...
6. Light carpentry and general maintenance (use of some power tools, yard work, painting)
7. Transporting/transferring eggs and fish
8. Operates and monitors fish culture equipment which regulates water quantity and quality
9. Follows established safety rules
10. Complete a Community Action Project that is identified, researched, and implemented by the intern during the term of service
11. Attend and complete all MAI/AmeriCorps training and service requirements including orientation, trainings, team meetings and national service days
12. Complete and submit all necessary MAI/AmeriCorps paperwork and reports in a timely manner
13. Wear an MAI uniform and/or appropriate identifiers and required safety gear while performing service or attending official events

POSITION REQUIREMENTS:

1. Must have a valid driver's license, clean driving record and ability to provide documentation.
2. Strong communication skills.
3. Ability to lift 50 pounds.
4. Weekend work on occasion.
5. Must wear official U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service uniform.
6. Ability to work outdoors for extended periods in inclement weather conditions.
7. Ability to work independently and as a member of a team.
8. Meet other requirements of a federal employee (eg. background check)
9. Must have served in US Armed Forces and have a DD214 with an honorable discharge.
10. 21 years of age at beginning of service term.
11. U.S. citizen, national or lawful permanent resident.
12. Possession of a high school diploma or equivalent, or commit to earning one prior to receiving education award.
13. Ability to commit to the full 45-week term of service (10 ½ months).
14. Selection, placement and retention are contingent upon passing the National Sex Offender Public Register and a national FBI fingerprint check. Position does not have recurring access to vulnerable populations.

15. Members are eligible to serve up to four terms of service and receive AmeriCorps Education awards for each term of service up to the value of two full time education awards only. It is the responsibility of the applicant to inform MAI of any previous service in an AmeriCorps program, regardless of whether or not they completed the previous term(s) of service. MAI is not liable for providing an Education Award to a member if they are not eligible under the Corporation for National and Community Service AmeriCorps guidelines.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Experience working with fish.
2. Fisheries/biology coursework.
3. Experience using hand and power tools.
4. Interest in salmon and fish hatchery operations.

MEMBER BENEFITS INCLUDE:

1. VetsWork is an apprenticeship program approved by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Department of Labor. Members with G.I. Bill benefits may be able to dual enroll as an apprentice and access their Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA) of up to approximately \$2,400 per month. Actual benefits vary by individuals' qualified benefits.
2. \$15,750 living allowance paid over the 10 ½ month term of service (\$350 weekly, before taxes).
3. \$6,195 education award (qualified student loans and/or education expenses)
4. Loan Forbearance
5. Health Care Insurance
6. Child Care Reimbursement
7. Professional development, trainings and networking opportunities.
8. Housing for intern provided by service site.

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION:

1. Project site is not accessible by public transportation.
2. Agency/Organization vehicles are available for work-related travel.
3. Intern is responsible for travel to and from orientation and to and from duty station

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY:

People of color, people with disabilities, veterans and LGBTQ candidates are strongly encouraged to apply. MAI is committed to a diverse workplace and to supporting our staff with ongoing career development opportunities. MAI is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in its employment decisions.

MAI provides reasonable accommodations to applicants and employees as required by law. Applicants with disabilities may request a reasonable accommodation at any point in the employment process.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

Email the following 4 documents to katie@mtadamsinstitute.org:

- Resume (Include **email contact** information for three professional references - military, civilian, or academic)
- Cover letter (One for each position applying to).
- Supplemental Questions:
 - What is your motivation for applying to VetsWork?
 - What are you hoping to get out of this experience?
- Copy of your DD 214 with an honorable discharge:
 - "General under honorable conditions" discharge are considered on a case-by-case basis
 - Must be long form "Member 4 copy" (has 30 total boxes of information).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- MAI screens all applications and conducts pre-interviews. If qualified, MAI will conduct thorough reference checks and recommend candidate for Sponsor Site interviews.

- If VetsWork position is offered, additional paperwork will be required.
- Application are open until filled
- Interviews will occur as qualified applications are received.
- More information can be found at “[VetsWork Frequently Asked Questions](#)” and “[Is VetsWork Right for Me?](#)”
- Cover letter information can be found at <https://www.macslis.org/articles/cover-letters>

QUESTIONS? Contact: Katie Schmidt | Recruitment Coordinator
509-395-3465
katie@mtadamsinstitute.org
mtadamsinstitute.org