

# VETSWORK – ENVIRONMENT

## AMERICORPS POSITION DESCRIPTION



**POSITION TITLE:** Maintenance Worker

**PARTNER ORGANIZATION:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Columbia River Gorge National Fish Hatchery

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.fws.gov/gorgefish>

**PROJECT LOCATION:** Spring Creek Fish Hatchery, 61552 State Road 14, Underwood, WA 98651

**SERVICE DATES:** February 8, 2021 to December 17, 2021 (1700-hour position)

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**POSITION SUMMARY:** In partnership with the Mt. Adams Institute (MAI), the Spring Creek Hatchery is looking for a maintenance worker to support hatchery functions. The primary role of the hatcheries is to collect adult salmon, spawn and rear them for release each year. The salmon are a vital resource for a tribal and recreational fishery and contribute to the commercial ocean fishery. Our purpose is to maintain the hatchery's operations, which allows them to replace salmon that were lost due to diminished spawning habitat when the Bonneville Dam was built in 1938. Every job the Intern will perform is directly related to the facilities' success and their ability to provide salmon for harvest.

The entire Columbia River Gorge National Fish Hatchery Complex consists of 6 facilities. The Intern will have the opportunity to learn about each hatchery's operations and history as they perform their duties. The hatcheries rest on large acres of land that need to be maintained as it is also federal property belonging to the citizens of the U.S. The lands are entrusted to our staff to maintain, protect, and utilize to perform its primary function and for public use.

Finally, the public also has a great interest in our job. The public benefits from the salmon produced either by directly harvesting or purchasing from commercial vendors. The recreational angler spends a lot of time and money in pursuit of salmon during the fishing season. Native American tribes also rely on these salmon for ceremonial and subsistence purposes. The Intern will interact with both tribal and recreational fishers and communicate what we are doing and why we are doing it clearly and understandably.

### **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS** (TO INCLUDE, BUT NOT LIMITED TO):

- Attend and complete all MAI/AmeriCorps trainings and service requirements, including orientation, trainings, and team meetings.
- Become familiar with other facilities in the Complex and assist those facilities when requested.
- General facilities maintenance.
- Performs minor construction and repair on existing structures.
- Locates and repairs utility systems by removing, cleaning, replacing, packing, and sealing defective parts.
- Assist with organizing and improving work stations.
- Lead youth group on grounds improvement projects.
- Clear paths during winter for staff and the public.
- Complete and submit all necessary MAI/AmeriCorps paperwork and reports in a timely manner.
- Wear MAI identifiers and required safety gear while performing service or attending official events.

### **POSITION REQUIREMENTS:**

- Must have a valid driver's license, clean driving record and ability to provide documentation.
- Attend mandatory virtual MAI Orientation (February 8-12) and Intern trainings (mid-term).
- Work independently to carry out tasks with minimal direction and supervision.

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- Demonstrate a good work ethic -arrive at work on time, pay attention to detail when performing your duties, and understand the importance of the job you are performing.
- Willingness to communicate with the public.
- Ability and willingness to serve outdoors in inclement weather with possible strenuous and repetitive physical activity and ability to lift up to 50 lbs.
- Ability to operate heavier trucks weighing up to 32,000 pounds with air brakes on rough, uneven terrain.
- Demonstrate attention to detail when collecting and recording data.
- Demonstrate a desire to promote environmental stewardship.
- Demonstrate ability to work as a team player and follow the direction of staff trying to teach specific job skills.
- Ability to travel to other hatcheries; may have to arrive earlier than normal to ensure we return on time at the end of the day.
- Comply with all Partner Organizations safety policies and procedures.
- Must have served in U.S. Armed Forces and have a DD214 with an honorable discharge.
- At least 21 years of age at beginning of service term.
- U.S. citizen, national or lawful permanent resident.
- Possession of a high school diploma or equivalent, or commit to earning one prior to receiving education award.
- Ability to commit to the full 45-week term of service.
- Selection, placement and retention are contingent upon passing the National Sex Offender Public Registry, state of service and state of residence criminal history check and a national FBI check.
- 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.
- **Must be willing to respond to COVID-19 restrictions by altering duties, working remotely from home, wearing designated Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as masks, ensure social distancing and follow all agency requirements while working and living in agency housing.**

#### **PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Understanding of safety that will meet OSHA requirements.
- Basic computer skills: Microsoft Office, email and internet searches.
- Experience with small engine repair.
- Experience with large motor, pumps and hydraulic systems.
- Experience or understanding of electrical circuits.

#### **BENEFITS INCLUDE:**

- VetsWork is an apprenticeship program approved by the Department of Veterans Affairs (V.A.) 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.
- \$15,750 living allowance paid over the 10 ½ -month term of service (\$350 weekly, before taxes).
- \$6,345 education award (qualified student loans and/or education expenses)
- Loan Forbearance
- Health Care Insurance
- Child Care Reimbursement
- Professional development, trainings and networking opportunities.
- Personal protective gear (PPE) required for assigned duties to include protective eyewear, gloves, hearing protection, and boots.

#### **TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION:**

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

**OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:**

- Weather during winter can make it difficult to travel to and from work.
- Accessibility of amenities within 15 miles of the Spring Creek Hatchery.

**DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION:**

MAI celebrates equity, diversity, and inclusiveness and does not discriminate against any person or group based on race, ethnicity, culture, age, gender, sexual orientation, expression, gender identity, ability, national origin or ancestry, veteran status, social economic class, religion, professional status, pregnancy, or parents/guardians with children. MAI is committed to a diverse workplace and to supporting our Interns and staff with trainings and career development opportunities.

MAI provides reasonable accommodations to applicants and employees. Applicants with disabilities may request a reasonable accommodation and/or alternative formats at any point in the employment process.

**APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:**

Email the following documents to Katie Schmidt at [katie@mtadamsinstitute.org](mailto:katie@mtadamsinstitute.org):

- Resume
- Cover Letter (One for each position applying to).
- Three Professional References (military, civilian, or academic) – Information to include: Name, Title, Relation to you, email & phone number.
- Supplemental Questions:
  - What is your motivation for applying to VetsWork?
  - What are you hoping to get out of this experience?
- DD 214 – (with 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).

**PROCESS:**

1. MAI screens application materials, conduct pre-interviews, and recommends qualified applicants for Service Site interviews.
2. Service Sites interview candidates, conduct reference checks and recommend placement.
3. If position is offered, additional paperwork will be required.

***Due to Covid-19 parts of our programming may change***

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

- More information 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](mailto:katie@mtadamsinstitute.org) | [mtadamsinstitute.org](http://mtadamsinstitute.org)



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