

VETSWORK – ENVIRONMENT

AMERICORPS POSITION DESCRIPTION



for the greatest good



POSITION TITLE: Condition Assessment Surveyor Intern

PARTNER ORGANIZATION: Pacific Northwest Regional Office / Fremont-Winema National Forest

WEBSITE: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/r6>

PROJECT LOCATION: 1301 South G. Street, Lakeview, OR 97360

SERVICE DATES: June 1, 2021 – April 8, 2022 (1700-hour position)

POSITION SUMMARY: In partnership with the Mt. Adams Institute (MAI), Region 6 National Forests (Oregon & Washington) will host a team of **3-6** VetsWork Interns to collect information at recreation sites to improve visitor access, evaluate the condition of existing facilities and develop plans to improve recreation access for people with disabilities. This team will be trained together prior to going to their sites, on fieldwork, data recording, site inventories, planning and accessible features. During their term, Interns may travel within the Pacific Northwest to support other Interns at their sites. This position will serve on the Fremont-Winema National Forest in Lakeview, Oregon.

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

- Collect infrastructure condition data at developed and dispersed recreation sites (campgrounds, trailheads, boat launches, etc.), historic and or special designation sites, and administrative sites around the National Forest.
- Input and revise recreation, historic and other data in corporate databases.
- Use data system NRM/INFRA for the forest(s) and regularly attend virtual training on how to utilize the system for multiple applications.
- Identify achievable projects to improve accessibility, decrease or eliminate deferred maintenance, and identify areas (where possible) to coordinate with adjacent landowners or partners.
- Photograph/video sites (where appropriate) to be provided to Recreation.gov to establish a baseline for visitor understanding.
- Collect and develop information about recreation sites to share publicly.
- Duties will be performed both in field setting for condition assessments with office assignments to record data into an online computer system.
- Interns will train conservation corps crews to complete maintenance and light construction projects on recreation sites and administrative facilities.
- Attend and complete all MAI/AmeriCorps trainings and service requirements including orientation, training sessions and team meetings.
- 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. Must comply with Driver Certification and Safety Agreement (see VetsWork Application Documents on website).
- Ability to attend virtual orientation, regular online team meetings and a week-long virtual mid-term training.
- Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing.
- Ability to take measurements and recordings and document information accurately.
- Comfortable talking with the public.

Mt. Adams Institute strengthens the connection between people and the natural world through education, service learning, career development and research.

- Ability to travel to remote forested areas.
- Ability to serve with others or alone.
- Ability to use and/or learn to use: data recorders, handheld radios, computer tablet, GPS, maps, hand tools and power tools
- Physical activity that involve walking, lifting and climbing over rough terrain with exposure to weather elements.
- 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, serving remotely from home, wearing designated Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as masks, ensure social distancing and follow all agency requirements while serving and living in agency housing.**

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- ArcGIS skills desired but not required.
- General understanding of maintenance.
- Ability to navigate and read maps.
- A desire and ability to become proficient in data analysis, data analytics and databases.

BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- 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.
- \$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.

HOUSING:

- This position provides an additional housing stipend of \$100 per week.
- The Intern will be able to utilize FS-provided bunk housing, located at 18049 Highway 395, Lakeview, OR 97360. This is a shared space with a furnished living room, bathroom, full kitchen, and two bedrooms with three twin beds in each room.
- Intern will be responsible for the bunkhouse cost of \$5.02 per day.

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION:

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

- Intern may travel within the Pacific Northwest to support other Interns at their sites.
- A personal vehicle is recommended. The bunkhouse is located approximately two miles north of town and the duty station.
- Town is accessed via Highway 395 which does not have bike lanes. There are limited bike lanes on community roads.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

- Lakeview is a remote and rural community with less than 3,000 residents within the town limits. Amenities include a Safeway grocery store, Dollar General, a handful of local restaurants, Subway, full-service hospital, limited social outlets (Elks, Rotary, Soroptimist, churches, etc.), and one laundromat.
- There are abundant recreation opportunities in both the desert and forest landscape (hiking, camping, biking, fishing, picnicking, etc.).
- This is a great place for outdoor enthusiasts and nature lovers. Roughly 77% of Lake County is public lands. The remoteness of this area lends itself to people who are independent, self-directed, and introspective. Individuals who thrive on significant interaction with others and high levels of external stimuli may struggle with an assignment in this location.
- Benefits of living in this community are immediate access to nature, solitude, close-knit/small town living, and the rich history of the area. Possible barriers are limited shopping opportunities, community activities, and social outlets outside of work. The closest Walmart is 100 miles away in the community of Klamath Falls, OR.
- Summers are warm and mostly clear, the winters are freezing and partly cloudy. Over the course of the year, the temperature typically varies from 18°F to 84°F and is rarely below 3°F or above 92°F. The warm season lasts for 3.0 months, from June 19 to September 17, with an average daily high temperature above 74°F. The hottest day of the year is August 4, with an average high of 84°F and low of 47°F. The cold season lasts for 3.6 months, from November 17 to March 3, with an average daily high temperature below 45°F. The coldest day of the year is December 31, with an average low of 18°F and high of 35°F. Because this community is located in a high-desert landscape, we typically see significant daily temperature fluctuations. It's not uncommon during the summer to have daytime temperatures in the 80s and nighttime temperatures in the 50s.
- Learn more about Lakeview at <https://www.allaboutlakecounty.com/>, <https://www.fs.usda.gov/fremont-winema>, <http://www.lakecountyexam.com/>
- Intern will need to supply their own bedding, toiletries, food, clothing and outerwear for all seasons, hat with brim, sturdy hiking boots, sunscreen, sunglasses, backpack, water bottle, first aid kit, and any specialty sporting equipment/outdoor gear that aligns with their personal hobbies.

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:

- 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

katie@mtadamsinstitute.org

mtadamsinstitute.org

