

VETSWORK – ENVIRONMENT

AMERICORPS POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE: Condition Assessment Surveyor

PARTNER ORGANIZATION: Pacific Northwest Regional Office -
Deschutes National Forest

WEBSITE: fs.usda.gov/r6

PROJECT LOCATION: 63095 Deschutes Market Rd, Bend, OR 97701

SERVICE DATES: February 7, 2022 to December 16, 2022 (1700-hour position)



for the greatest good



POSITION SUMMARY: In partnership with the Mt. Adams Institute (MAI), the Deschutes National Forest will sponsor a VetsWork AmeriCorps Intern to serve as a Condition Assessment Surveyor. The Intern will 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. The selected intern will be trained together as part of a team (of 3-6 interns in different Forest Service units across Oregon and Washington) prior to going to service sites on fieldwork, data recording, site inventories, planning and accessible features. During the term of service, Interns may travel within the Pacific Northwest to support other Interns at their sites.

The Central Cascades wilderness / Deschutes National Forest areas are home to iconic mountain peaks, high alpine meadows and lakes, and old growth forests. Crystal clear streams, wildflower meadows, rugged mountain views, young lava flows, and much more can be found in the Mount Jefferson, Mount Washington and Three Sisters Wilderness areas.

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:

Service Site

- Must have a valid driver's license, clean driving record and ability to provide documentation.
- Comply with all Partner Organizations safety policies and procedures.

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

- Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing.
- Ability to take measurements and recordings and document information accurately.
- Comfortable talking with the public.
- 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.

AmeriCorps

- Must have served in US 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.
- Attend virtual MAI Orientation (February 7-11) and Intern trainings.
- 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.
- **COVID-19 Policy - Selected applicants will be required to follow the policies at their service site including any changes that are implemented throughout the course of the program. These policies may include vaccination or regular testing mandates (federal sites), masking / social distancing mandates, remote / virtual work, altered field duties and other restrictions determined necessary to keep site staff, partners and the public safe. Accepting a position means accepting the current requirements and any updates to those requirements while you are enrolled in the program.**

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.
- \$16,875 living allowance paid over the 10 ½ -month term of service (\$375 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:

- A \$100/week housing stipend provided by service site.

- There may be agency housing available in Crescent, OR or Sisters, OR. Please speak with MAI recruitment staff to discuss this potential option.

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION:

- Agency/Organization vehicles are available for service-related travel. Intern may travel within the Pacific Northwest to support other sites.
- Intern is responsible for travel to and from duty station. While it is possible to live in Bend without a car, public transport is somewhat limited and getting to the Supervisors Office using public transit is a challenge.
- Living in Sisters and Crescent without reliable transportation would be challenging

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

- Primary office location is in Bend, Oregon. District offices are in Bend, Sisters, and Crescent. The Deschutes National Forest ranges from desert juniper that is mostly snow-free year round to riverside and lake areas to the high mountain cascades.
- Year round recreation opportunities abound, and for a city of approximately 100,000 (Deschutes County population is about 200,000), Bend offers excellent recreation and community amenities including popular events, festivals, music and arts.
- The community of Sisters (west of Bend) is much smaller (about 35 minutes away) and also is a 'jumping off point' into the Forest, while it also has a library and a lively local community.
- Crescent is a very small community. Crescent is approximately 45-50 minutes south of Bend and is smaller yet, with a more rural feel; services are largely available in the community of LaPine, in between Bend and Crescent.
- Bend is a mid sized city with abundant restaurants, entertainment, grocery and other retail, limited public transportation, but overall a wide variety of amenities. Sisters is a smaller community that is a tourist hot spot in the summer but has limited services in the winter.
- Some employees live north of Bend in the community of Redmond, where housing is less expensive but is a 30 minute commute to the Supervisors office.

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](#)”
- Cover letter information can be found at <https://www.macslis.org/articles/cover-letters>

QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

Katie Schmidt

Recruitment Coordinator | 503-504-5994

katie@mtadamsinstitute.org | mtadamsinstitute.org

