

VETSWORK- GREENCORPS

AMERICORPS POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE: Wildfire Landscape Management Intern

PARTNER ORGANIZATION: Umatilla National Forest

WEBSITE: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/umatilla>

PROJECT LOCATION: 401 W. Main St. Ukiah, OR 97880

SERVICE DATES: April 18, 2022 to July 15, 2022 (490-hour position)



POSITION SUMMARY: In partnership with the Mt. Adams Institute (MAI) and AmeriCorps, the Umatilla National Forest is offering this exciting opportunity that combines hands-on work experience, skill development and camaraderie. VetsWork GreenCorps Interns will receive US Forest Service (FS) training in safety, chainsaw, tool use, wildfire landscape management, wildland firefighting, and crew organization. Interns will focus on wildfire fuels reduction (thinning and removal of excess trees/vegetation) combined with wildland fire training. The experience and training in the VetsWork GreenCorps program is designed to prepare participants for a variety of positions with the U. S. Forest Service. Participants of the program who perform satisfactorily during the service term have an opportunity to be hired directly onto a Forest Service fire (hand) crew immediately after the internship.

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

- Support the Integrated Vegetation Management Plan by participation in fuels reduction. A large part of the position will involve “thinning”- using a chainsaw to thin trees in designated areas on the forest to mitigate the build-up of wildfire fuels.
- Participants will attend basic “Fire School” where they will receive training and certification in the following courses:
 - I-100 – Introduction to Incident Command System (ICS)
 - L-180 – Human Factors in the Wildland Fire Service
 - L-280 Followership to Leadership
 - S-130 – Firefighter Training
 - S-190 – Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior
 - S-211 – Portable Pumps and Water Use
 - S-212 – Wildland Fire Chain Saws
 - S-219 Firing Operations
 - Forest Service Defensive Driving
 - First Aid/CPR
- Participate in trail construction and facility maintenance as needed.
- Attend and complete all MAI/AmeriCorps trainings and service requirements including orientation, trainings 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:

- Interns must pass a “pack test” on the first day of the program. The physical requirements are measured by the [Work Capacity Fitness Test](#) at the arduous level. Interns must be able to walk 3 miles within 45 minutes while carrying 45 pounds. Running is not allowed.
- Must be able to complete the following secondary PT test periodically:
 - running 1.5 miles under 12:00 minutes required, under 10:35 minutes expected (hotshot standard)

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

- 40 sit-ups in 1 minute
- 25 push-ups in one minute
- 7 consecutive pull-ups.
- Willingness to work long hours in all types of weather conditions.
- Repeatedly lift upwards of 50 pounds.
- Ability to work 10 hours per day. The typical work schedule is Monday – Thursday.
- Ability to repetitively use hand tools (these are often heavy tools like Pulaskis, chainsaws, etc.)
- Engage in daily physical training each work morning including running several miles, hiking on occasion, and strength exercises.
- Interns must have NFPA Rated Leather Work Boots prior to starting position (Ex: Whites Boots, Hawthorne, & Danner Brands)
- **Must be fully vaccinated against Covid-19 with the ability to provide documentation. This position serves alongside a crew of 20 people (other interns and Forest Service staff) that live and travel together for the entire term of service.**
- Must follow all Covid-19 policies at their service site including any changes that are implemented throughout the course of the program. These policies may include masking/social distancing, 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.

AMERICORPS

- Must have served in US Armed Forces, including Guard and Reserves and have a DD214 with an honorable discharge.
- Be between the ages of 21 to 35 years of age at beginning of service term.
- U.S. citizen, national or lawful permanent resident.
- Ability to commit to the full term of service (13 weeks) for which they are applying.
- Attend and participate in mandatory MAI/Forest Service orientation and graduation. This includes passing the “pack test” at orientation on the first day.
- Must not engage in any prohibited activities as outlined in the Member Service Agreement.
- Regular and reliable attendance.
- Possession of a high school diploma or equivalent, or commit to earning one prior to receiving education award.
- 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.
- Interns 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.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Ability to qualify for the Veterans Recruitment Authority (VRA) <https://www.fedshirevets.gov/job-seekers/special-hiring-authorities/>
- Natural resources management experience
- Demonstrated ability to work on a team
- Experience living and working outdoors
- Positive and clear communication skills

BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- \$4,875 living allowance paid over the 13-week term of service (\$375 weekly, before taxes).
- \$1,718.25 education award (qualified student loans and/or education expenses)
- Loan Forbearance
- Child Care Reimbursement

- Professional development, trainings and networking opportunities.
- Provide meaningful service to the local citizens and environment.

HOUSING:

- Free bunkhouse for Interns
- Bunkhouse bedrooms are double occupancy with a large shared kitchen, bathroom and living space for the full 20-person crew.
- Drugs, alcohol, firearms, and pets are not allowed inside the bunkhouse.

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION:

- Organizational vehicles are available for service activities.
- A personal vehicle is recommended for non-service time.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

- The town of Ukiah, OR (where the Forest Service district office is located) is a small town of approximately 250 people. There are no major grocery stores, doctor's offices or other similar services. The Frazier Bunkhouse where GreenCorps members live is 17 miles from the town of Ukiah. It is very remotely located. The nearest full service town is La Grande, OR and is about 50 minutes from Frazier Bunkhouse.
- Internet and cell access at the bunkhouse is very limited.

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 (someone who has supervised you; 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 GreenCorps?
 - What are you hoping to get out of this experience?
- Copy of your DD 214 with an honorable discharge:
 - "General under honorable conditions" discharge is considered on a case-by-case basis
 - Must be long form "Member 4 copy" (has 30 total boxes of information).

PROCESS:

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- More information at “[VetsWork GreenCorps 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 cell (Monday-Friday 9a-4p PDT)

katie@mtadamsinstitute.org | mtadamsinstitute.org

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

