



Title: Park Ranger Intern (2 openings)

Start/End Date: April 11, 2022- March 10, 2022 (anticipated)

Stipend: \$550/week

Term: 48 weeks

Reports To: Tami Torres (Outdoor Recreation Planner)

Location: BLM Taos Field Office (226 Cruz Alta Road, Taos, NM 87571)

Status: 1700-hour AmeriCorps Service Term

Benefits: AmeriCorps Education Award \$6,3454 (pre-tax); Public Lands Corps Certificate eligible*; both with successful completion of the internship.

Summary:

Conservation Corps New Mexico (CCNM):

Conservation Corps New Mexico, a program of Conservation Legacy, is focused on connecting youth, young adults, and recent era military veterans with conservation service work projects on public lands. CCNM operates programs across New Mexico and western Texas, and Oklahoma that engage individuals and strengthen communities through service and conservation. The CCNM Individual Placement Program is managed from the Arizona Conservation Corps office in Las Cruces, NM.

Position Summary:

This position will mainly focus on National Conservation Lands to include dispersed recreation, wilderness and wilderness study areas but may also provide assistance on other projects within the Taos Field Office Recreation Program. The main office is located in Taos, New Mexico.

The recreation program at the BLM Taos Field Office is the largest New Mexico BLM Field Offices. The recreation program manages recreational uses within the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument, the Sabinoso, Cerro del Yuta Wilderness and San Antonio Wildernesses, two wilderness study areas, dozens of dispersed recreation areas and a robust river program managing 3 Wild and Scenic Rivers.

These programs include, but are not limited to, wilderness management, recreation and transportation planning and management, implementing the field offices route signing program, and patrolling and inventorying monument and field office lands.

This intern would be interacting with local partners and organizations to provide leadership and/or assistance with public events, assist in the development of a sign plans and lead a trails maintenance activities as needed.

Essential Responsibilities and Functions:

- Work with Outdoor Recreation Planner, Assistant Field Manager-Recreation, Law Enforcement and Civil Engineers to patrol, assist in management of and plan activities within the recreation

program to include designated wilderness, wilderness study areas, national trail segments and dispersed recreation areas within the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument as well as the Taos Field Office.

- Under the guidance of the Outdoor Recreation Planner, conduct inventories and studies to determine recreation visitor use and site suitability, including visitor use analyses, demand analyses, hazard and sign inventories, and recreational facilities inventories.
- Review and analyze the Wilderness and Travel Management National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), assist in developing project objectives/milestones and timelines and preparing NEPA Categorical Exclusions, Determination of NEPA Adequacy, and Minimum Requirements Decision Guides (MRDGs) as needed once training has been completed.
- Perform general trail maintenance, recreation site rehab, vandalism repairs and other on-site projects as needed.
- Complete Volunteer Coordinator Training, develop Risk Assessments, volunteer agreements and lead volunteer projects in wilderness and dispersed recreation areas to include Travel Management Planning Implementation, clean-up of public lands, patrols and signage placement.
- Identifies and plays an active role in resolving wilderness and dispersed recreation conflicts.
- May monitor and evaluate interpretive, environmental education programs, websites and recreation special events to include completing compliance checks and year-end reporting for land based Special Recreation Permits.
- Special projects may include assisting in the development of a Wilderness Management Plan, drafting MRDG's, assisting in the development of a travel management implementation plan and the development of a Travel Management Plan.

Required Skills:

Qualifications:

- High School Diploma
- Experience in trail maintenance and trail tool use and maintenance.
- Familiarity using Global Positioning System (GPS) devices, mapping and route finding.
- Comfortable and experienced with public engagement.
- Ability to drive a 4-wheel drive truck on rugged gravel or dirt roads.
- Applicants must pass a DOI security background check and must possess a valid driver's license with a clean driving record.

Preferred Qualifications:

- College degree in a related field such as Conservation Education, Wilderness or Recreation Management or Natural Resource Management.
- Previous leadership experience, preferably with a Conservation Corps or working with volunteers.
- Experience or knowledge of the theories and concepts of trail maintenance, travel management, wilderness, Wild and Scenic Rivers or other Special Management Designations and/or GIS for mapping, inventory and other data collection efforts.

Physical Requirements:

- To successfully perform essential functions, the individual is required to sit, stand, walk, speak, hear, etc. He/she must be able to operate office equipment, telephone, and computer and reach with hands and arms.

- Approximately 60% of the work involves physical exertion, and a high level of fitness is required and should be able to lift 30 lbs on a routine basis. The individual is often subjected to solo southwestern desert and mountain extremes of up to 7,000 feet. Field work often requires the operation of four-wheel drive vehicles or ATV's over extremely rugged terrain and/or hiking or backpacking long distances in very remote areas. Occasional weekend and holiday work may be necessary. Camping in the field will likely be required. The remainder of the work (40%) involves sitting at a desk, working on a computer for extended periods in an office setting.
- Reasonable accommodations may be made for qualified individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Participant Essential Eligibility Requirements:

Participation and Expedition Behavior:

- Work effectively as a member of a team despite potentially stressful and difficult conditions. This may require problem solving on an interpersonal or group level as well as a willingness to accept differences.
- Contribute to a safe learning environment; no harassment of others for any reason.
- Willingness and ability to complete all aspects of the program including conservation projects, education, training, and national service.
- Effectively communicate ideas and concerns as they arise directly to supervisors, colleagues, and organization staff.
- Appropriately represent Conservation Corps New Mexico, the BLM and AmeriCorps to the public and partners at all times.
- Flexibility, adaptability and capacity to work in a fluid, changing work environment.

Safety and Judgment:

- Effectively communicate danger to others in the form of either a warning of danger others may be encountering or a notification of personal distress, injury or need for assistance. Must be able to do so at a distance of up to 50 meters and in conditions with limited visibility or loud background noise such as darkness or high winds.
- Effectively perceive and understand significant and apparent hazards, and follow direction by others so that you will be able to successfully execute techniques to manage hazards. These directions may be given before the hazard is encountered or may need to be given during the exposure to the hazard. Ability to respond appropriately to stress or crises.
- Stay alert and focused for several hours at a time while traveling and working in varied weather conditions.
- If taking prescriptions medications, participants must be able to maintain proper dosage by self- medicating without assistance from others.

Substance Free:

- In accordance to a drug free workplace, alcohol and drugs are prohibited while participating in AmeriCorps and program activities and while on organization property.

Vaccination Requirement:

In order to ensure the health and safety of the communities that Conservation Legacy serves, as well as to meet federal requirements for government contractors, all participants of Conservation Legacy

Programs must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by the first day of employment and have the ability to provide proof of vaccination before starting.

Background Check:

A DOI background clearance must be completed before the selected candidate may report to duty. The BLM will provide instructions for completion of the clearance after an intern has been selected and will notify them when they have been cleared to start the internship. **This process will determine the internship's exact start date.**

Interns will have access to government facilities and systems, and will be supplied with access to gov't vehicles, equipment, and materials needed to work on the projects and activities as outlined above. Interns must adhere to all government regulations and policies for operating equipment, vehicles, security awareness, and safety.

*To be eligible for a Public Lands Corps certificate, interns must be between the ages of 18-30, inclusive, at the time the individual begins the term of service.

To Apply: Please submit an updated resume and cover letter along with the online application at <https://corpsnm.org/individual-placement-openings> . If you have questions, contact CCNM's Individual Placement Support Coordinator SamJean Simmons at ssimmons@conservationlegacy.org.

For more information about Conservation Corps New Mexico, please visit www.corpsnm.org. Conservation Corps New Mexico is a program of Conservation Legacy.

