



## Northwest Youth Corps - AmeriCorps Community Engagement Resource Steward



Northwest Youth Corps (NYC) and [Siuslaw National Forest](#) have partnered to achieve the dual goals of **1)** increasing access to meaningful outdoor experiences, and **2)** increasing interest in natural resource careers and public land management, specifically for traditionally underrepresented and underserved populations. We seek an AmeriCorps candidate to serve in the Outdoor Ambassador program, who has experience with outdoor recreation, community engagement, conservation education, and event planning. The successful candidate will be able to communicate fluently in English and Spanish, have a degree in a relevant field, demonstrate an ability to work independently, possess strong written and oral communication skills, and a passion for stewardship. Both NYC and Siuslaw National Forest will provide oversight of this position.

### **Location**

The intern will be based at the Siuslaw National Forest headquarters in Corvallis, OR, with frequent day trips to recreations sites. Corvallis is a lovely college town (go Beavs!) of 56,000. Corvallis is located 1 hour from the coast and 1.5 hours from the Cascade Mountains. The town enjoys a thriving downtown area, miles of hiking/biking trails, an incredible farmer's market, and a mild climate. With miles of bike paths and lanes, it's also a truly bikeable community. Applicants should be aware that due to the influence of the university, the housing market is fairly tight.

### **Organizational Backgrounds**

Established in 1905, the Forest Service is an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The Forest Service manages public lands in national forests and grasslands. Gifford Pinchot, the first Chief of the Forest Service, summed up the mission of the Forest Service — "to provide the greatest amount of good for the greatest amount of people in the long run." National forests and grasslands encompass 193 million acres of land, which is an area equivalent to the size of Texas.

Northwest Youth Corps (NYC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to youth development through teamwork, education, and challenge. As of 2013, NYC has provided opportunities to over 17,000 youth and young adults to learn, grow, and experience success. NYC programs focus on education, challenge, community, leadership, and empowerment. NYC's 33-year history of success has been made possible through a broad-base of support from individuals, public partners, businesses, and community organizations.

### **Internship Summary**

The Community Engagement Resource Steward will work with the Siuslaw National Forest Public Affairs Officer and NYC's management team to develop and facilitate opportunities that connect diverse populations to their public lands. Specifically, the intern will conduct outreach to community organizations with a focus on engaging traditionally underserved youth and families (e.g., minorities, girls, low income families, limited English proficiency, people with disabilities), and develop nature- and career-exploration programs for youth, families, and organizations that address and overcome barriers to outdoor recreation.

Field trips and programs will primarily take place on the Siuslaw National Forest and occasionally in local parks and other public lands. The overarching goals of this internship are to establish strong relationships with community groups serving traditionally underserved youth and families, co-lead programs with these community groups that facilitate fun and meaningful outdoor activities for underserved youth and families, inspire youth to pursue natural resources careers, and empower everyone to enjoy the myriad benefits of public lands. Furthermore, the intern will also conduct outreach to community organizations to support local engagement in NYC program and activities.

The intern will be based at the Siuslaw National Forest's headquarters and will be required to work some evening and weekend hours to attend community meetings and outdoor-related events, particularly during the late spring/summer months. The selected individual will work directly with members of the public to accomplish internship goals. The intern will also be required to drive a large van (provided) to transport program participants around the Willamette Valley and Oregon Coast Range.

### **Areas of Responsibility**

- Attend functions and represent NYC and Siuslaw National Forest in a professional manner.
- Coordinate and co-lead educational and recreational field trips for community members through the Outdoor Ambassadors program.
- Develop strong connections with stakeholders and community groups to increase awareness of recreational and career opportunities with the Forest Service and Northwest Youth Corps.
- Recruit youth and young adults to participate in Northwest Youth Corps programs.
- Precisely and accurately track all accomplishments and other helpful metrics to increase exposure of NYC and the Forest Service.
- Respond to questions from the community in a timely manner.

### **Desired Skills**

- Demonstrated experience working in diverse communities
- Commitment to equity and inclusion in all aspects of work
- Experience leading outdoor activities with youth
- Strong writing skills
- Excellent public speaking skills
- Self-starter with the ability to work independently
- Friendly and personable; willingness to engage with variety of people and generate conversations
- Strong computer and analytical skills
- Fluent in Spanish and English
- Appreciation for working in the great outdoors and with the community at large
- Applicant must be between the ages of 21 and 25 to qualify for this position

### **Education / Experience**

Education - A Bachelors degree from a four-year college or university, preferably in communications, education, environmental studies, social services, or a relevant field.

Experience - Previous experience which demonstrates organizational skills, youth and community engagement, the ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously, and familiarity with a wide range of communication strategies. In addition, the candidate must at least 21 years of age, possess a valid driver's license, a clean driving record, and must pass a criminal history check.

### **Terms of Employment**

This is a full time, 10 month, 1,700 hour position. Workload varies seasonally and will periodically require long days and/or evening and weekend responsibilities.

### **Compensation**

- \$16,161.20 living allowance dispersed on a monthly basis
- Health insurance plan, training, loan forbearance, interest accrual relief
- \$5,920 education award (upon successful completion of service term and all program requirements)
- The living allowance and education award are taxable

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Member Name (please print)

Signature

Date