



U.S. FOREST SERVICE

Caring for the land and Serving the people

United States Department of Agriculture



Job Announcement

United States Forest Service – Siuslaw National Forest

Community Engagement & Education Coordinator Resource Assistant

Please Respond by **April 25, 2021**

The [Northwest Youth Corps](#) (NYC), in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, welcomes applications for a Community Engagement & Education Coordinator Resource Assistant position. This is a 32.5-week full-time work experience from approximately late-May 2021 to January 2022. Created in 1984, and modeled after the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s, NYC is a non-profit job training and experiential education program for youth and young adults to learn and work in the field of natural resource management. NYC will recruit and hire the selected RA candidate, providing personnel and Human Resources HR needs during the placement; the daily activities of the RA will be primarily under the direction of Forest Service staff.

Position: Community Engagement & Every Kid Outdoors Education Coordinator

Target start date: late-May 2021

Duration: 32.5 weeks; 7.5 months

Status: Full time

Duty Location: Siuslaw National Forest, Central Coast Ranger District (Waldport, OR – Reedsport, OR)

Overview

The U.S. Forest Service Siuslaw National Forest seeks a Resource Assistant to coordinate and implement inclusive community engagement and education activities that connect Oregon Coast and Willamette Valley communities with public lands. The Siuslaw National Forest extends over half-a-million acres through mountains of the Coast Range, bounded by the Pacific Ocean on the west and the Willamette Valley on the east. Diverse habitats include mountain meadows, rocky shores, vast coastal sand dunes, old-growth forests, and numerous ocean bound rivers. Miles of trails, numerous campgrounds, visitor centers, scenic areas, National Recreation Areas, and the solitude of four wilderness areas are all waiting to be explored. The Forest fosters and maintains a wealth of partnerships through creative and energetic work by top-quality, dedicated employees. “Restoration, Recreation, and Relationships” are the Siuslaw National Forest’s niche.

We seek a candidate who has experience with conservation education, outdoor recreation, and community engagement. The successful candidate will demonstrate an ability to work independently, possess strong written and oral communication skills, have a passion for stewardship, knowledge of concepts regarding diversity and the outdoors, and *preferably* be able to communicate fluently in English and Spanish.

Position Description

The [Resource Assistant Program](#) is a rigorous and immersive paid internship for individuals interested in Forest Service careers. Resource Assistants (RAs) work with Forest Service staff to complete mission-critical work that demonstrates leadership, critical thinking, and strategic communication. Through direct training, experience, and exposure, RAs gain the tools to launch their careers. This is an immersive professional internship that requires a skillful and confident applicant who can manage a portfolio of work with the support of permanent staff.

The Community Engagement and Education Coordinator will work with Forest Service staff to enhance education and outreach services to schools and diverse community groups to better connect kids and families to the resources of the Siuslaw National Forest. Work assignments have been modified to include virtual engagements in response to the COVID 19 pandemic following guidance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, and the State of Oregon.

This role will focus on the intersection of education and community outreach. While engaging all grade levels, conservation education efforts will specifically target both 4th grade and underserved populations. The goals of this position are to inspire youth to become future stewards of public lands, and to empower everyone to enjoy the myriad benefits these lands offer. Work will also support creation of a range of educational products and curriculum that meets Next Generation Science Standards and STEM learning components. Education programs will work to meet the current needs of local schools and relate to the role of the U.S. Forest Service and the Siuslaw's restoration objectives.

Areas of Responsibility

- Develop, coordinate and manage culturally responsive community engagement and environmental education events that enhances access, information and knowledge of public lands including forest sites such as the Oregon Dunes, Cape Perpetua, Marys Peak, or Cascade Head. (virtually or in-person)
- Develop and maintain long standing partnerships with stakeholders, community-based organizations, and schools.
- Develop, coordinate and deliver [Every Kid Outdoors](#) programming to classes with a focus on Next Generation Science Standards and Title 1 schools (virtual or in-person).
- Coordinate community engagement participation among field rangers, volunteers, staff and partners.
- When possible, involve youth directly in forest projects such as dunes restoration, watershed restoration, citizen science surveys (BioBlitz), and invasive species eradication.
- Accurately track all accomplishments and metrics in NYC and Forest Service databases.
- Reviewing existing youth and community engagement projects and programs to make recommendations that improve diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Assist in program communications and social media efforts to share program and event stories.

Desired Skills

- Cultural competency and demonstrated ability successfully engaging communities across cultural, racial, and economic boundaries
- Commitment to incorporating equity and inclusion in all aspects of work
- Confidence to manage groups of people in different settings, especially outdoors with an emphasis on safety and risk management
- Experience teaching students of all ages
- Ability to respond professionally to a variety of situations that may arise quickly
- Ability to stand/walk on uneven, steep terrain
- Strong writing and public speaking skills
- Self-starter with the ability to work independently
- Fluent in Spanish (*preferred*)
- Appreciation for working in the great outdoors and with the community at large

Requirements

- Valid state driver's license and ability to operate a motor vehicle by the time of employment. Government vehicles are available for work-related travel; Resource Assistants are responsible for travel to and from duty station.
- Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents over 21 years old.
- A flexible work schedule likely including some evening and weekend hours to attend community meetings, events, and host field trips; virtually or COVID modified.
- Successful completion of a background check.

Program Benefits

- NYC will provide the RA a total stipend of \$16,250 divided across a 32.5-week term along with health care coverage (premium 100% covered by NYC), workers compensation, and FICA/Medicare.
- The RA will receive \$1,250 in funding to reimburse relocation costs, program travel, and applicable trainings.
- The RA will have [U.S. Forest Service Direct Hiring Authority and Noncompetitive Hiring Eligibility](#) upon completion of 960 hours of service.
- The RA will have a minimum of 50 hours of flexible paid leave in addition to federally recognized holidays.

The Community

This position is based on the Central Coast Ranger District (CCRD) of the Siuslaw National Forest, which includes the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area (ODNRA). This district runs along the Pacific Coast starting north of Coos Bay, OR and stopping just south of Newport, OR. Office locations include the district headquarters in Waldport, the ODNRA visitor's center in Reedsport, and the Cape Perpetua Visitors Center just south of Yachats. These small cities line the central Oregon Coast and are full of hidden treasures and outdoor activities. Each one is only a few hours away from major population centers such as Corvallis, Eugene, Salem, and Portland. The duty location is flexible and may include a combination of virtual and in-person work.

Nearby coastal cities:

Newport	http://www.newportchamber.org/
Waldport	http://www.waldport-chamber.com/
Yachats	http://www.yachats.org/
Reedsport	http://reedsportcc.org/

Application Instructions Below

Application Deadline: **April 25, 2021**

Interviews: Will occur as qualified applications are received

Type of position: Individual Placement

Service Dates: late-May 2021 to January 2022

Length of Term: 32.5 weeks; 7.5 months

How to apply: Please submit a cover letter, resume, and contact information for three professional references and completely fill out the application form found at <http://bit.ly/NYCInternApplicationForm>

Please select "Siuslaw NF - Community Engagement Resource Assistant" when applying.

Additional Information

If you have questions about the Youth and Community Engagement Resource Assistant Internship, please reach NYC Internship Program Officer Andrew Tagge at andrewt@nwyouthcorps.org or Siuslaw National Forest Interpretive Specialist Brian Hoeh at brian.hoeh@usda.gov.

NYC COVID-19 Protocols: *We have developed and facilitated industry leading COVID management protocols that are in place to keep our members and staff healthy, and have maintained an excellent safety record. Read our COVID protocols by visiting www.nwyouthcorps.org/m/covid19.*