Position Title: Natural Resource Management Assistant (1)
Position Type: Guest Scientist
Primary natural resource discipline: Multidisciplinary
Project keywords: planning, resource preservation, compliance, visitor use management, outdoor recreation, education
Location: Lakewood, Colorado

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND WORK PRODUCTS

Position Description: Serving as a project specialist, the intern will gain first-hand experience of how a regional office of the National Park Service (NPS) operates and interfaces with national park units and coordinates with other NPS offices. The intern will work directly with the Planning Portfolio Manager (PPM) and the Visitor Use Management (VUM) Workgroup Facilitator within the NPS regional office serving DOI Regions 6, 7, 8 (Lakewood). VUM is an important emerging issue that parks across the region are grappling with. The topic of VUM includes parks who are seeking ways to engage new or additional visitor populations as well as parks who are experiencing high levels of visitation and impacts such as crowding and congestion. To address the topic of VUM, a regional workgroup was established in late 2017. This workgroup started a community of practice that has grown with representation from park, regional, national program and WASO level staff. This internship will focus on accomplishing key goals set out by the workgroup and identified as critical by the Community of Practice for VUM operations and planning.

Tasks will include developing and facilitating presentations and webinars, researching and implementing pilot programs at park units including, but not limited to developing best practices and communication materials for pilots, working with interdisciplinary teams to identify and utilize data systems that can inform VUM data collection efforts, and helping to develop, organize, and facilitate monitoring focused workshops at parks. All of these efforts serve to increase the VUM planning knowledge in the region and to assist parks in making planning decisions in order to protect natural resources, cultural resources, and visitor experiences. In addition, the internship will expose the intern to a variety of regional planning efforts. A key task will be to assist the development of park planning portfolios - an assemblage of the planning documents parks that guide park management direction - as well aiding in assessments of park planning needs.

Balancing visitor use and resource protection is at the heart of the NPS mission. As park units face critical questions of how to simultaneously provide high quality visitor experiences while also minimizing impacts to resources, it is critical that managers have access to the best available information to make planning decisions. This internship will help the region in its goal of providing park managers current and meaningful information and guidance. It will also help the region be more responsive to park needs by through enhancing regional understanding of park planning and data needs.
This position is offered through the National Park Service’s Geoscientists-in-the-Parks (GIP) Internship Program in partnership with Stewards Individual Placement Program (Stewards) and The Geological Society of America (GSA).

**Work Products:** presentations for trainings and webinars (2-4), agenda, materials, notes and outcomes from 1-2 monitoring workshops, preliminary pilot plan (1-2 parks), summary of interdisciplinary (VRP, Commercial Services, other potential disciplines) data collection systems that could inform VUM, and 5-10 planning portfolios for individual parks.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

The intern should be seeking a degree, preferably an advanced degree in planning, social science, natural resource management, resource management and policy, or similar fields. The ideal candidate is highly motivated, a good writer and communicator, and enjoys working in a highly collaborative team environment. The candidate should have an interest in pursuing a career with a federal land management agency focusing on management planning, policy, and resource management.

The applicant must be a U.S. citizen or U.S. permanent legal resident ("green-card-holder") between the ages of 18 and 35 years old. Prior to starting this position a government security background clearance will be required.

**VEHICLE/DRIVER LICENSE REQUIREMENTS**

Applicant must have a valid driver license and a good driving record. The intern may be driving a regional vehicle for work duties.

A personal vehicle is RECOMMENDED but not required for this position. Public transportation is available in the area, however bus stops and routes may be limit near the office itself. Bicycle or other alternative transportation may be possible depending on comfort level.

If the GIP is required to drive a park vehicle for their position, Stewards will perform a driving records search, and the GIP’s ability to drive a park vehicle during work hours will be contingent upon the results. GIPs will have to have had their license for 3 years or be over the age of 21 to be insured as drivers under Stewards insurance policy. Examples of things that will preclude a GIP from driving a park vehicle include: GIP under the age of 21 years old that has been licensed less than three years, DUIs, multiple moving vehicle violations, suspended or revoked license, or three or more accidents (regardless of fault) in the last 3 years. If the driver’s search is favorable, Stewards will provide driver’s liability insurance while the intern is driving a NPS vehicle for their GIP position. If the GIP is denied coverage by Stewards, they will not be permitted to drive during work hours.

**HOUSING**

Park housing is NOT available and the intern will be responsible for finding housing in the nearby area. Shared rooms likely available to rent near multiple college campuses in the nearby area.

**INTERNSHIP DATES**

Start Date: 6/1/2020  
Number of weeks: 12 weeks  
Flexibility of dates: Yes

**LIVING ALLOWANCE**

12 weeks ($525/week = $6,300)

**RELOCATION ALLOWANCE**

$250
**AMERICORPS PROGRAM**

AmeriCorps is a program that engages individuals in intensive community service work with the goal of “helping others and meeting critical needs in the community”. The GIP Program is supported through AmeriCorps by providing a Segal Education Award in addition to the GIP’s living stipend and relocation allowance.

Upon successful completion of the GIP position, the GIPs (AmeriCorps members) are eligible for a $1,638 - $6,195 pre-tax education award that can be used for paying back student loans or for continuing their education. The amount of the education award is based on the length of the position.

AmeriCorps limits the number of terms an individual can serve to 4 terms. If an applicant has previously completed 4 GIP or other AmeriCorps positions, they will not be eligible to apply for an additional GIP position.

**NATURAL & PHYSICAL WORK ENVIRONMENT**

**Natural Environment:** Office setting located in the Denver-metro area, high elevation with variable weather conditions, generally good access to amenities such as grocery stores.

**Physical Work Environment:** Office setting with configurable standing or sitting desk. Some field travel will be likely, with work primarily occurring in meeting room environments but some opportunities for field site visits.

**MENTORING AND LEARNING GOALS**

**Mentoring:** Two regional planners will be available for mentoring and professional development and will guide day to day tasks. Exposure to multiple directorates in the regional office will be focused on so that intern can gain a holistic understanding of the types of work that the regional office does.

**Learning Goals:** The intern will gain an understanding of how planning is conducted at an NPS regional office and how the region coordinates with and supports individual park units and their managers.

**SUPERVISORS/MENTORS**

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<th>Primary Supervisor/Mentor:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Susan McPartland</td>
<td>Sami Powers</td>
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<td>Planning Portfolio Manager</td>
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<td>12795 West Alameda Parkway</td>
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