## PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND WORK PRODUCTS

**Position Description:** With support from the natural resource team and other technical experts across the Planning Division, the intern will be assigned to lead the development of a toolkit for national park planning. More specifically, the toolkit will include guidance and resources for planners to use when establishing management zones and desired conditions for national park units. Desired conditions are defined as statements of aspiration that describe resource conditions, visitor experiences and opportunities, and facilities and services that our agency strives to achieve and maintain in particular areas of parks. The intern would perform a number of tasks to develop the toolkit including:

- Synthesize and evaluate existing zoning examples from past plans.
- Develop a searchable database by zone categories.
- Identify gaps in the current spectrum of zone examples, and where possible develop potential models to fill these gaps.
- Collaborate with the GIS team to develop a web-based zoning/mapping tool, including collecting and organizing existing GIS data related to management zones.
General management planning, including the establishment of management zones and desired conditions for national park units is essential for achieving the mission of the National Park Service. A clearly defined management plan is built on the foundational language that legally established each national park unit, including the fundamental resources and values that must be protected in order to maintain its national significance. In particular, management zones and desired conditions describe what conditions, outcomes, and opportunities are to be achieved and maintained in the future, not necessarily what exists today. They serve as a critical touchstone for future resource management decisions and activities.

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:** An online, virtual toolkit that includes a set of tools and resources that support planning teams in establishing management zones and desired conditions for national park units.

**QUALIFICATIONS**
Seeking a graduate level student with backgrounds in resource management, public land use planning, or similar fields. The ideal candidate is highly motivated, a good analyst, 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 resource preservation, planning and management, or park operations.

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 does not need a valid driver license.** The intern will not need to drive a government vehicle.

**A personal vehicle is not required for this position.** Public transit does reach our office from across the Denver metro area and several of our staff utilize those options. However many staff members prefer to have their own car to explore the front range mountains and parks on evenings and weekends. Many nearby accommodations have grocery stores and restaurants within walking distance.

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, DUILs, 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. A number of extended stay hotels are located nearby the office.

**INTERNSHIP START/END DATES**
**Start Date:** 6/7/2020
**Number of weeks:** 12 weeks
**Flexibility of dates:** Yes

**LIVING ALLOWANCE**
12 weeks ($600/week = $7,200)
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.

PHYSICAL/NATURAL & WORK ENVIRONMENT

Natural Environment: Lakewood Colorado is a suburb on the western edge of the Denver metro area - up against the foothills and mountains of the Front Range. Our office is about 15 minutes by car, and 30 minutes by public transit from downtown Denver, and directly adjacent to the foothills, open spaces, and associated recreation opportunities. Housing and shopping amenities are plentiful.

Physical Work Environment: The work primarily takes place in an office environment. Travel to a national park unit may be necessary -- possibly one or two week-long trips during the internship. Trips to parks often involve site visits which take place outside in varying conditions.

MENTORING AND LEARNING GOALS

Mentoring: The intern will be a member of a highly collaborative natural resource team within the DSC planning division. As a member of the team, the intern will work with and be supported by the team as they collectively and individually support resource management planning efforts within the agency. The intern would work closely with an assigned mentor, the branch chief, and division chief on both formal and informal learning and professional development.

Learning Goals: Through this opportunity the intern will develop professional-level writing, communication, critical thinking, and time management skills. Additionally the intern will develop an understanding of planning, compliance, and resource management processes within federal land management agencies, particularly the National Park Service.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The DSC Planning Division has made a concerted effort to increase the diversity of our staff. Given the highly collaborative nature of planning, and the teams within our office, having a diverse workforce that brings diverse ideas and perspectives into planning projects is critical to the success of our projects and this office. To meet this goal, DSC has successfully used various hiring authorities, including Schedule A to hire individuals with disabilities, (former) SCEP and STEP programs, the Future Park Leaders DHA Program, and competitive service advertisements to hire diverse candidates.

PRESENTING PROJECT RESULTS

With support from the natural resource team and other technical experts across the Planning Division, the intern will be assigned to lead the development of a toolkit for national park planning. Once complete, the intern would present their results to the NPS Planning Leadership Group which includes representatives from Washington and Regional offices.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The intern will be a member of a highly collaborative natural resources team within the DSC Planning Division. The team is composed of seven project managers and specialists with a variety of
backgrounds/expertise in natural resources. As a member of the team, the intern will work with and be supported by the team as they support resource management planning efforts across the agency. The intern will be supervised by the branch chief who oversees the natural resource team.

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<tr>
<td><strong>Primary Supervisor/Mentor:</strong></td>
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<td>Nancy Shock</td>
<td>Chris Church</td>
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<td>Branch Chief</td>
<td>Division Chief</td>
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