



POSITION DESCRIPTION

Winter 2023

NPS UNIT: Inventory and Monitoring Division, Pacific West Region Office

Position #: 1310

Position Title: Science Communication Assistant

Number of positions available: 1

Primary natural resource discipline: Communication and Education

Position Keywords: Science Communication, Technical Writing

Location: Ashland, Oregon

Can this position be fully remote: Yes

POSITION DESCRIPTION AND WORK PRODUCTS

Project Description: This position would support the Pacific West Region Inventory and Monitoring (I&M) Program in technical editing, writing, and science communication projects. Ecologists, biologists, and physical scientists in I&M need assistance in updating science planning documents and communicating results to improve interdisciplinary staff understanding of ecological monitoring. The individual in this position would have the opportunity to interact with a variety of specialists to integrate revisions to science protocols and finalize documents for publication. This is an opportunity to practice and develop technical editing and writing skills while using a foundation in science toward assisting teams in the completion of documents that are key to the direct practice and planning of ecological field studies. Complementing this work, this position will assist scientists in projects to translate scientific results and study designs into web and other digital content suitable for broad, interdisciplinary audiences. This is an opportunity to work on composition of articles for NPS web pages, briefing statements (including graphics and layout as well as writing), story maps, and infographics. The position will support multiple I&M networks but will be stationed at and supported primarily by the Klamath Inventory and Monitoring Network in Ashland, Oregon.

Work Products: 1) Technical writing contributing to the revision or completion of science protocols and report; review of documents for clarity; editing documents to comply with formatting requirements. 2) Creation of digital content: composition of articles for web pages, development or revision of story maps to convey the meaning of ecological monitoring results and designs; graphic layout and infographics; review of websites for content gaps to help ensure the full range of science results from network programs are publicly accessible; coordination with specialists on development of web-based briefing statements to share results of ecological monitoring. 3) Participate in periodic field outings to learn about implementation of NPS science in the field. 4) Position may also have the opportunity to help coordinate and participate in science symposia, planning sessions, and workshops.

NATURAL & PHYSICAL WORK ENVIRONMENT

Ashland, Oregon, is a town of ~20,000 residents in the Rogue Valley of southern Oregon, just 16 mi. north of the California Border. The Rogue Valley sits between the Siskiyou and Cascade Mountains and has a mild four-season climate with temperatures ranging from the 30's in winter to the 90's in summer. Ashland is home to Southern Oregon University, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, and other cultural opportunities. The Rogue Valley offers a wide range of outdoor recreational opportunities such as hiking, biking, skiing, rafting, and exploration at nearby national parks. A variety of shopping and medical services are available in Ashland, with larger retail stores within 20 miles.

QUALIFICATIONS

Science writing experience is essential, with exceptional command of American English grammar. Familiarity with the Chicago Manual of Style is preferred. Strong web graphics and composition skills are desirable. Openness and creativity. A commitment to, and ability to convey, the meaning of ecological science in the 21st century. An interest in learning and innovating while working alongside a team of scientists.

The applicant must be a U.S. citizen or U.S. permanent legal resident ("green-card-holder"). Prior to starting this position, a government security background clearance will be required.



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VEHICLE AND DRIVER LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

Applicant must have a valid driver's license to drive a government vehicle.

A personal vehicle is recommended for this position.

If the SIP is required to drive a park vehicle for their position, Stewards will perform a driving records search, and the SIP's ability to drive a park vehicle during work hours will be contingent upon the results. SIPs 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 SIP from driving a park vehicle include: SIP 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 SIP position. If the SIP is denied coverage by Stewards, they will not be permitted to drive during work hours.

HOUSING

Park housing is NOT available. The intern will be responsible for finding housing in the nearby area. Park housing is not available. The intern will be responsible for finding housing in the nearby area. Rentals in Ashland can be expensive, averaging \$1000 for a 1 br/1 ba apartment. Less expensive rentals may be found within the nearby cities of Talent, Phoenix, and Medford, which are a short commute (10-20 min drive) from Ashland. Klamath Network may be able to facilitate shared housing through Southern Oregon University. It may be possible that SOU could offer housing at a reduced rental rate to the SIP.

INTERNSHIP DATES

Start Date: 01/30/2023

Number of Weeks: 52

Flexible Start Date: Yes

LIVING ALLOWANCE

52 Weeks (\$580.00/week = \$30160.00)

RELOCATION ALLOWANCE

350.00

AMERICORPS PROGRAM



AmeriCorps

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 SIP Program is supported through AmeriCorps by providing a Segal Education Award in addition to the SIP's living stipend and relocation allowance.

Upon successful completion of the SIP position, the SIPs (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 SIP or other AmeriCorps positions, they will not be eligible to apply for an additional SIP position.

Partners

This position is offered through the National Park Service's Scientists in Parks (SIP) Program in partnership with various organizations.



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