



Conservation Education Trainee

Workforce Training Program

Deschutes National Forest

Description:

The Discover Your Forest Conservation Education Trainee will play an essential and active role in assisting Discover Your Forest (DYF) and the U.S. Forest Service with interpretive and conservation education programs. Some programs the Trainee may assist with include: Project SNOW (Studying Nature 'Online' in Winter) Virtual Explorations for upper elementary students, a virtual afterschool program for upper elementary students from the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, designing self-paced/asynchronous activities for virtual Junior Snow Ranger programs or other education/interpretive programs, recruiting teachers/classes to participate in programs or follow up communication with classes which have already registered, and other tasks as assigned. Program delivery for 2021 will focus on distance learning options, a combination of synchronous (virtual live participation) and asynchronous (self-paced participation) platforms and hands on activities that can be done at home. The Trainee will work with DYF educators and US Forest Service staff and volunteers. The trainee will co-develop and facilitate virtual exploration programs to school groups. The trainee will spend approximately 80% of their time working as an educator delivering programs. The team member will spend 10% of their time supporting other DYF events or programs. The remaining 10% will be to seek other field opportunities with Forest Service professionals and partners of the Children's Forest of Central Oregon. Most programs will occur on weekdays throughout January, February and March; some time is spent driving to locations, and compensation for mileage is reimbursed.

Duration: 100-120 hours (8-12 weeks January – March)

Salary: \$12.00/hourly

Job Type: Workforce Training Program

Department: Education and Interpretive Programs

Recruitment: *will remain open until filled*

Example of Specific Duties include, but not limited to:

- Deliver asynchronous [self-paced participation] and synchronous [virtual live participation] conservation education and interpretive programs to the public and school groups focused on topics that relate to the Deschutes National Forest.
- Interact and engage with students for in-person programs if COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.
- Service will generally be Monday-Friday, but commitment to serve some weekends throughout January-March may also be necessary.
- Ability to travel to various locations within the Deschutes National Forest, mileage will be reimbursed.

Qualified candidate will have

- A commitment to the mission of Discover Your Forest and the US Forest Service
- Experience working with youth
- Relationship orientated
- Collaborative work ethic and a high degree of flexibility
- The ability to work independently and with others
- Openness to learning and growing with the Trainee experience
- Willingness to learn how to use digital tools such as video meeting & other virtual engagement platforms (training will be provided)

Preferred Qualifications

- High School Diploma or equivalent
- Experience teaching or leading outdoor education programs
- Experience working with and supervising children and/or adolescents.
- Knowledge of current natural resource topics of the area.
- Bilingual (Spanish-English)

What is the education value to the Workforce Training Program?

- Potential to gain further knowledge on natural history & natural resource topics that are relevant in Central Oregon and the Pacific Northwest Region.
- Enhance employment opportunities with DYF and Children's Forest of Central Oregon partners, as well as other Environmental Education organizations.
- Gain a broad perspective of Conservation Education through exposure to a variety of duties.
- Opportunity to network with a diverse group of professionals: formal and non-formal educators, scientists, U.S. Forest Service specialists as well as other natural resource agencies.
- Acquire a realistic career orientation.
- After *successfully completing* the Trainee program, DYF will provide positive job or education references & letters of recommendation, as requested.

Onboarding:

We will conduct reference checks as part of our recruitment process. We will conduct criminal background checks on a final candidate as required for the position.

Questions and How to Apply:

- For more information contact Karen Gentry, Discover Your Forest's Education and Volunteer Program Director, at 541-233-6110 karen.gentry@discovernw.org and Stacey Cochran, Community Engagement Director, at 541-508-9899 stacey.cochran@discovernw.org
- To apply: Email Cover Letter and Resume to both karen.gentry@discovernw.org and stacey.cochran@discovernw.org.