

From: Amy Gladding
Subject: Position Available: Wildlife Habitat Conservation Technician, USFS, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest

<http://crcareers.thegreatbasininstitute.org/careers/careers.aspx?rf=ECOLOG&req=2016-ACI-034>

The Great Basin Institute, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, is recruiting one (1) AmeriCorps Intern to serve as a Wildlife Habitat Conservation Technician to participate in wildlife population surveys, habitat assessment, habitat improvement project layout, and other duties related to habitat conservation efforts in the sagebrush ecosystem. The technician will work directly with a Forest Service Wildlife Biologist and Biological Technician to accomplish these tasks.

Specific duties will include:

- Maintain safety awareness and safe practices while travelling, conducting field work, and working in the office;
- Drive on rough roads and navigate off-trail to remote survey sites and project locations.
- Conduct sage-grouse lek counts/surveys. These surveys require wake-up times as early as 3 am to travel to remote sites and prepare for bird counts before sunrise. Will likely require camping during cold and winter like conditions.
- Complete project preparation duties. Establish layout of treatment units by flagging and/or GPS boundaries for pinyon-juniper removal projects according to documented project designs. Establish pretreatment photo points. Inventory, map, and inspect fence lines, water developments, roads, and other features occurring in project areas.
- Project inspections. Visit pinyon-juniper removal projects during and after implementation to ensure contract specifications were followed and habitat objectives were met.
- Raptor nest checks. Visit project locations in advance of treatments to confirm presence/absence of raptor nests and make recommendations to avoid nest disturbance.
- Participate in other wildlife and habitat monitoring and conservation efforts led by the Forest Service in and adjacent to the sagebrush ecosystem.
- Clean and enter data related to wildlife population surveys and habitat improvement accomplishments into forms, spreadsheets, and Forest Service data systems.
- Maintain vehicles, equipment, and facilities.
- May conduct some field duties alone depending on logistics.

Camping for consecutive nights in remote field settings may be necessary. This will include camping during sage-grouse lek surveys when conditions can be winter-like with snow and subfreezing temperatures. The technician will still be expected to wake up early, typically one hour before first light, in order to be on site for lek counts.

Location:

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest

Rising from the floor of the Great Basin—the vast expanse between the Rocky and Sierra Nevada Mountains where creeks and rivers flow inland rather than to the ocean—the steep, green mountains of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest provide critical water, wildlife habitat, and incredible adventures for visitors and residents. Ghost towns and historic mining cabins dot these vast, largely undiscovered sky islands that offer freedom, solitude, and a sense of discovery and adventure for the self-reliant. Although mostly remote, the Forest also borders some of the busiest urban areas in the country—Las Vegas and Reno.

Tonopah: Tonopah is located in west central Nevada at over 6,000 ft. elevation in the San

Antonio Mountains, about midway between Reno and Las Vegas. With a population of 2,600, Tonopah is a full service community. There is great access to the national forest, including the Alta Toquima, Table Mountain, and Arc Dome Wilderness Areas with beautiful views, hiking, wildlife viewing, and Mount Jefferson, the tallest peak in Central Nevada, (11,900 ft).

Timeline:

20 March to 29 September (28 weeks)

Compensation:

- Living allowance = \$13,265
- AmeriCorps Education Award* = \$2,887
- \$15/night camping per diem
- Housing provided in USFS bunkhouses
- No cost Health insurance (medical, dental, vision) provided

*AmeriCorps Education Award may be used for past, present or future education experiences, including payment of qualifying federal student loans. Loan forbearance and accrued interest payment on qualifying student loans is also available.

Qualifications:

Technical requirements:

- Bachelor's Degree in Life Sciences, such as: Wildlife Biology, Range Ecology, Natural Resources Management, Environmental Resources or related subject;
- Experience and comfort working or recreating in a remote wilderness setting;
- Experience identifying terrestrial and aquatic wildlife species, including birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians, preferred;
- Experience conducting wildlife and plant surveys according to established protocols, including documenting bird counts, photo points, and site observations, preferred;
- Familiarity with native and invasive plants of the sampling area and associated natural resource issues, preferred;
- Experience with data entry and management, preferred;
- Ability to read, interpret and navigate using topographic maps;
- Experience safely operating 4WD trucks on paved and unpaved roads, often in remote areas on unimproved roads;
- Experience navigating and collecting coordinates with hand-held GPS units;
- Experience creating maps and performing basic functions with GIS software (ArcMap); and
- Experience with Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Access).

Additional requirements:

- Willingness and ability to work in a fast-paced, dynamic setting, and to consistently enact high performance standards and a strong work and team ethic in support of the mission of GBI;
- Valid, state-issued driver's license and clean driving record;
- Ability to work productively as part of a team to accomplish mutual goals;
- Ability to communicate effectively with team members, agency staff, and a diverse public;
- Excellent organizational skills;
- Familiarity with best practices for field safety and Leave No Trace principles;
- Experience in and willingness to spend multiple days camping in the field;
- Willingness to work irregular hours (e.g., early mornings, late nights); and
- Ability to work in harsh and rapidly changing environments, work in all types of weather

conditions, traverse uneven terrain, carry upwards of 40 pounds in a backpack, and otherwise maintain good physical condition;

- Meet AmeriCorps eligibility requirements: (1) U.S. citizenship or legal resident alien status, (2) eligible to receive an AmeriCorps Education Award (limit of four in a lifetime, or equivalent of two full-time terms of service), (3) pass National Sex Offender Public Website (NSOPW) and federal criminal background checks, (4) adhere to the rules, regulations and code of conduct as specified in the Member Service Agreement; and (5) will not engage in any prohibited activities as listed in the Member Service Agreement; and
- Possession of a federally issued personal identification verification (PIV) card, also called a “LincPass”, that allows access to federal computers and data networks, preferred. These cards are issued to employees and volunteers of Federal agencies including the US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, US Fish & Wildlife Service, and National Park Service. If you are unsure if you have a LincPass, please contact GBI to discuss.

How to Apply:

Please visit our employment web page to apply directly through our online portal:

<http://crcareers.thegreatbasininstitute.org/careers/careers.aspx?rf=ECOLOG&req=2016-ACI-034>

We conform to all the laws, statutes, and regulations concerning equal employment opportunities and affirmative action. We strongly encourage women, minorities, individuals with disabilities and veterans to apply to all of our job openings. We are an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin, age, disability status, Genetic Information & Testing, Family & Medical Leave, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law. We prohibit Retaliation against individuals who bring forth any complaint, orally or in writing, to the employer or the government, or against any individuals who assist or participate in the investigation of any complaint or otherwise oppose discrimination.