Yellowstone National Park – Native American - Resource Management Internship 2017 (Summer)

Position Description:

This position falls under the North District Resource Management Operation based in Mammoth Hot Springs in Yellowstone National Park under the supervision of National Park Service staff. The duties required of this position are associated with the following disciplines; hazard tree management, invasive plant control, wildlife/visitor management, data entry, and integrated pest management. The work schedule will be Monday through Thursday 7:00AM – 5:30 PM. Our crew does not work on federal holidays. Our crew size is 6 to 8 people.

Hazard Tree Management:

As a member of our crew, the intern will be expected to participate in the identification and removal of hazardous trees throughout the developed areas within the North District of Yellowstone National Park. These duties will include hauling sections of fallen trees and brush, acting as a traffic control flagger along park roads, and driving of government vehicles while towing a flatbed trailer. Tree removal requires the ability to lift weights of up to 40 lbs. Intern will be provided training on identification of hazard trees as well as all safety protocols related to working around chainsaws and tree felling operations. All personal protective equipment will be provided. Chainsaw use will not be required as a part of this position.

Invasive Plant Control:

Our crew uses chemical and mechanical control methods in our fight against invasive plants. Chemical control, which makes up the vast majority of our efforts, requires the intern to carry a backpack herbicide sprayer (weight approximately 25 lbs) for upwards of 8 hours per day throughout the summer months (June, July, and August). Mechanical treatment/removal of invasive plants involves use of digging tools and carrying of trash bags full of plant material. The ability to hike 5 to 10 miles per day while carrying up to 40 lbs is required, as some of our
invasive plant patches are located in the backcountry of the Park. Ability to operate a UTV (Utility Task Vehicle, i.e. Polaris Ranger) is recommended but not required of intern for treatment of roadside invasive plants.

Personal protective equipment and training on safe handling of herbicides will be provided to the intern upon starting with our crew. Required personal protective equipment must be worn at all times when exposed to herbicides.

**Integrated Pest Management**

On occasion, our crew will be asked to respond to pest management issues throughout our district. Such responsibilities include dealing with rodent infestations, insect infestations, small mammal disturbances and avian disturbances. The use of various traps and is required as a part of our response to such issues. Training will be provided.

**Wildlife/Visitor Management**

Our staff assists with management of roadside wildlife when encountered. This involves helping to keep visitors at a safe and manageable distance from wildlife along the roadside, as well as traffic management to keep the roads clear for vehicle travel. Training and safety equipment will be provided to the intern for such events.

**Data Entry**

Our staff manages many databases and the intern will be asked to maintain our data records as needed throughout the length of the internship. Knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel and Arc GIS is recommended.

**Logistics of Living and Working in Yellowstone National Park:**

**Background Investigation** - The selected individual will be required to pass a NACI (National Agency Check with Inquiries) background investigation prior to beginning work with the NPS. This is a standard background check for federal employees who will not have access to classified information.

**Housing** – Intern housing will be single occupancy only. No family housing is available for this position. Housing will be in a dormitory setting with common kitchen facilities. Sleeping quarters will consist of up to 4 people per room (gender specific) with each individual sleeping area designated by a partitioned off area of personal space. A common room with television (no cable or satellite connection) is available in the dorm. Each person is responsible for cleaning their own space and kitchen area as well as removal of all trash and recycling. The
dorm has coin operated laundry facilities and shared bathroom facilities. Pets are not allowed in shared government housing.

**Internet** – Intern will be granted internet access through the NPS network at our office once the individual completes a required training and receives the appropriate security clearance. The NPS internet is monitored and certain restrictions will apply in accordance with government policy. Wireless internet service is not guaranteed at the dorm. Free wifi is available at the Gardiner Community Library in Gardiner, MT.

**Weather/Climate** – Mammoth Hot Springs is located in a high desert climate. During the summer months the weather can change drastically and quickly. Overnight temperatures can reach near freezing and highs can range in the mid 90s (Fahrenheit). It is best to be prepared for hot, cold, wind, rain, snow etc. at all times. A layering system of clothing is recommended.

**Nearby Communities** – Mammoth Hot Springs is the headquarters of Yellowstone National Park. Within walking distance of the dorm is a gas station, post office, medical clinic, hotel, restaurant, bar and numerous NPS offices, and visitor center.

5 miles north of Mammoth is the town of **Gardiner, Montana**. Gardiner has all of the major amenities of a small town including, gas stations, grocery store, drug store, bank, restaurants, bars, churches, library, hotels, and post office.

51 miles north of Gardiner is the city of **Livingston, Montana** and **Bozeman, Montana** is 22 miles west of Livingston.

**Y.N.P. Entry (Vehicle Registration)** – There will be no charge for entry into Yellowstone National Park for the intern. A temporary entry pass will be given to the intern prior to arrival for the first day of work. Upon arrival, the intern will then register their vehicle with the NPS and receive an entry sticker for their vehicle which will allow unlimited entry and exit from the Park free of charge. To obtain an entry permit (sticker) the intern must provide current driver’s license, current proof of insurance and current vehicle registration.

**Uniform** – The intern will be provided a uniform shirt to wear for the duration of the internship. Sturdy hiking boots are required but not provided. Full length pants are required for this position (most employees wear sturdy pants i.e. Carhart, Dickies, etc.). There is a cache of unused/lightly used uniform items that will be made available to the intern at no cost. Be aware that the selection of uniform items is limited and many sizes are not available.

**Backcountry Camping** – One week long backcountry trip will be required for this position. This will require the ability to hike 8 miles into a NPS Patrol Cabin. The intern will have the choice to either stay in the cabin or in a tent outside of the cabin for the duration of the trip. Backpack,
tent, and other gear will be provided for this trip. It is recommended that the intern provide as much personal gear as possible (i.e. tent, sleeping bag, backpack, stove, fishing gear, camera, etc.) as our equipment can only be used during government work.