



Position Description

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| Position Title | Recreation Technician |
| Partner Organization | Okanogan- Wenatchee National Forest |
| Website | www.fs.usda.gov/okawen/ |
| Project Location | 2108 Entiat Way, Entiat, WA 98822 |
| Internship Dates: | May 4 to October 16, 2026 (24-week position, 40 hour/week) |

Position Summary

In partnership with [Mt. Adams Institute \(MAI\)](#), Entiat Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will host a Land Stewards Intern to serve as a Recreation Technician. The Intern will have the opportunity to support Recreation projects across the district, including program areas such as developed recreation, backcountry education, trails, and the off-highway vehicle program. The Intern will spend the season maintaining recreation sites and trails while educating hikers on best use practices, regulations, and Leave No Trace principles in the rugged Cascade Mountains. The district is responsible for the maintenance of 13 land based developed campgrounds, 11 boat-in campgrounds, 21 trailheads, hundreds of miles of trails, and numerous dispersed sites. Opportunities may be available for mountain bike and motorbike logouts depending on skill and comfort level.

This position is ideal for a person who has a passion for being in the mountains. The project locations vary from established administrative buildings to mountainous wilderness areas, with ninety percent of the service and related travel performed outdoors. Backcountry travel experience and skills are a plus for this position, but training will be provided. The position requires strenuous physical exertion, including walking in steep or uneven terrain, heavy lifting, and carrying backpacks up to 50 pounds or more. Exposure to extreme weather and temperature is expected. Schedule varies, but 10-hour days are common.

Essential Functions

To include, but not limited to:

- Work with Forest Service employees and other interns as part of a recreation/trails crew.
- Maintain developed recreation facilities including campgrounds, picnic areas, and trailheads.
- Maintain and improve the condition of hike, bike, horseback, and off-highway vehicle trails using various specialized tools. Tools include handsaws, axes, hoes, loppers, shovels, picks, crosscut saws, chainsaws, hedge trimmers, and power brushers. Training is provided.
- Participate in special projects such as bridge building, campground facilities repair, heavy trail maintenance projects, and hunter education or other tasks assigned, to achieve district recreation program goals.
- Demonstrate and educate visitors on rules, regulations, tread lightly, Leave-No-Trace ethics, and proper backcountry practices during multi-day trips. Training is provided.
- Clearly communicate with members of the public, volunteers, and Forest Service employees in a friendly and non-confrontational manner.
- Keep a daily log of service activities, visitor contacts data, trail survey data, and trail conditions.
- assigned to achieve district recreation program goals.
- Complete internship requirements and submit all necessary paperwork and reports in a timely manner.

Position Requirements

- Must have a valid driver's license, clean driving record, and ability to provide documentation when requested.
- Between the ages of 18-30 years (up to 35 for military veterans), at the start of the program.
- A U.S. citizen, U.S. permanent resident, or a non-citizen with specific authorization to work in the U.S.
- Ability to commit to the full internship.
- First Aid/CPR certified or willing to get certifications during program.
- Be physically fit, able to walk long distances (5-15 miles/day) carrying heavy loads (+55 pounds) with steep elevations gains.
- Must travel, work, and live safely in mountainous wilderness settings and/or remote community settings, including proper and safe use of backpacking/camping equipment during trips.
- Possess cut resistant or leather work/hiking boots with 4-8" tops, which are a necessary requirement for chainsaw operations. Boots should be comfortable to hike in for long distances on a daily basis.
- Must be able to serve long hours outdoors. Schedule can range from 4 days a week working 10-hour days to 8 days working 10-hour days with 6 days off.
- Maintain regular and reliable attendance. Must be able to consistently show up on time and fit for duty.
- Communicate professionally with many different people (land managers, other Forest Service trail crew employees, volunteers) in both an office and field setting.
- Have a willingness to serve alone or in small teams and the ability to perform duties with minimal supervision.
- Able to maintain physical health and a positive attitude while performing physical labor in extreme conditions (heat, cold, rain); season will start with snow on the ground and end with snow on the ground, in between it will be hot and dusty.
- Commitment to promoting responsible and safe recreation activities in National Forests.
- Attend program orientation, MAI trainings, and other required MAI meetings.
- Selection, placement, and retention are contingent upon receipt of a satisfactory criminal history report.
- Must follow all health and safety policies and procedures, including any changes that are implemented throughout the course of the internship.

Preferred Qualifications

- Ability to perform duties in a team environment with a variety of members on a wide range of tasks.
- Comfortable with public speaking and engaging with recreation users.
- Education in natural or cultural resource management, or environmental sciences.
- Demonstrate a history of working or recreating in a backcountry, semi-backcountry, or natural environment.
- Ability to interpret instructions and complete work based off project work plans.
- Experience with safe use of hand tools (this could include experience in farming, gardening, orchard work, landscaping, carpentry, construction, etc.).
- Knowledge of equipment assembly, installation, and repair.
- Physically fit upon arrival, and able to begin the season hiking and carrying heavy packs on day one.
- Understanding and appreciation for various outdoor recreation activities related to the recreation field including mountain biking, hiking, backpacking, horse riding, dirt biking, etc.

Benefits

- \$13,200 stipend for 24 weeks; \$550 weekly (before taxes).
- Housing allowance (see more information below).
- Observance of federal holidays (site-specific).
- Professional development, trainings, and networking opportunities.
- Live and work in a beautiful setting with many opportunities for outdoor recreation.
- Provide meaningful service to the local citizens and environment.
- The Forest Service will provide most backpacking and camping equipment, or you may choose to use your own gear if you prefer. However, you must provide your own sturdy, leather hiking boots (required safety equipment) and clothing appropriate for the extremes of mountain weather (ex. Socks, warm layers).

Housing

- A \$750 per month housing allowance is provided. This payment is deposited monthly and is taxable.

- Forest Service bunkhousing is available to rent:
 - The bunkhouse is located at the Steliko Work Center ~10 miles from the Ranger Station. The intern will share the house with other Forest Service seasonal staff.
 - The bunkhouse has bedrooms, a full kitchen, dining area, living room and bathroom. The intern may have to share a bedroom and will share a bathroom with other bunkhouse residents.
 - Bed frames and mattresses are provided, but you will need your own sheets and pillows. The kitchen is fully stocked with utensils, pots, pans, plates etc. There is a washer and dryer in the house, although you will need your own detergent.
 - There is no television and cell service is not available at the bunkhouse. There is Wi-Fi in the bunkhouse and Wi-Fi calling is available.
- Pets, firearms, alcohol, and drugs (including marijuana) are prohibited in the bunkhouse. Under federal law, marijuana & cannabis products are still classified as a controlled substance. Even though it may be legal in certain states, it is illegal on Federal lands, including campgrounds, buildings, and other facilities.

Transportation Information

- Agency vehicles are available for work-related travel. Forest service provides all transportation between the Ranger Station and project sites.
- Although the Ranger Station is, the bunkhouse is not accessible by public transportation, so it is highly recommended that intern have their own vehicle to travel to the Ranger Station, to access supplies, and travel on days off. The housing is about 10 miles from the Ranger Station.
- Travel reimbursement is provided up to \$750 to assist with travel costs getting to the site. If traveling by car, Intern must meet MAI's insurance requirements to qualify. More information will be provided during interview.

Other Considerations

- The town of Entiat is situated alongside the Columbia River and has a general store, gas station, post office, library, and small pub. Entiat is about 30 minutes from both Wenatchee, WA and Chelan, WA –these towns are larger and have more amenities like full-service grocery stores (Safeway) and other shopping (Costco, Target, Walmart, etc.). This service site is well suited for individuals who appreciate recreational opportunities such as hiking, biking, climbing, and boating.
- The Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest is a large and diverse landscape, encompassing 3.8 million acres along the east slopes of the Cascade Range in Washington. The Intern will work on both the Entiat and Chelan Ranger Districts. The majority of the land-based recreation sites are located on the Entiat District while the Chelan District has Lake Chelan and our boat in recreation sites.

About Mt. Adams Institute

Mt. Adams Institute is a nonprofit organization based in the rural community of Trout Lake, Washington with a mission of strengthening the connection between people and the natural world through education, service learning, career development, and research.

MAI Land Stewards is a career development internship for young adults, ages 18-30 (up to 35 for military veterans) interested in learning more about public lands and natural resources management. Land Stewards interns are placed at local, state, and federal land management agencies such as the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and environmental nonprofits throughout Washington and Oregon.

Equal Opportunity Employer

MAI celebrates equity, diversity, and inclusiveness and does not discriminate against any person or group based on race, ethnicity, culture, age, gender, sexual orientation, expression, gender identity, ability, national origin or ancestry, veteran status, social economic class, religion, professional status, pregnancy, or parents/guardians with children. MAI is committed to a diverse workplace and to supporting our Interns and staff with trainings and career development opportunities.

MAI provides reasonable accommodations to applicants and employees. Applicants with disabilities may request a reasonable accommodation and/or alternative formats at any point in the employment process.

How to Apply

Submit the following to Erica Keleher at erica@mtadamsinstitute.org:

- **Cover letter** - include your motivation for applying; and your experience as it relates to the position if it is not represented in your resume. If you are applying for more than one position, submit a cover letter for each position you are applying for (3 maximum).
- **Resume**
- **Three Professional References** (former supervisors, mentors, colleagues, etc. - military, civilian, or academic. Do not include family members.
 - Include - Name, relation to you, email & phone number.

Interview Process

1. **Mt. Adams Institute**
 - Screens Applications
 - Conducts interviews
 - Recommends applicants for Service Site interviews
2. **Service Sites**
 - Interviews candidates
 - Conducts reference checks
 - Recommends placement

Additional Information

- [Land Stewards Program Overview](#)
- [Land Stewards Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)

Questions? Contact:

Erica Keleher

MAI Program Manager

erica@mtadamsinstitute.org

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