

Position Description

675 Hour AmeriCorps Member

Tongue River and Rosebud Battlefield State Parks:
Decker, MT



Term of service: May 22, 2017 – September 22, 2017

Service schedule: Member will serve a minimum of 675 hours over an 18 week term, averaging 41 hours per week with 40 hours of “Time not served” to be used as holiday, vacation or sick time in addition to regularly scheduled weekends.

Position Summary:

This position includes work at two different Parks with different purposes.

Tongue River State Park is a highly visited, well developed recreation Park offering opportunities for camping, fishing, boating, swimming, and wildlife viewing. Most of our visitors are fisherman looking to catch 7 game species of fish with decent limits on all species. The Park offers 159 campsites with 81 under a reservation system. Our goals here are to provide a safe and healthy experience by caring for the grounds and facilities at a high standard.

The AmeriCorps member is slated to enhance the visitor experience by providing needed interpretation programs as developed with emphasis on the natural surroundings and offerings, educational programs to include Nature Walks, Art in the Park. Adaptability and innovation are encouraged of our Members with many ideas they might have readily adopted. There is a potential of up to 100,000 visitors which can allow for much diversity in programming. Additional projects include land improvement through weed management, site development to enhance program presentation and development of public information important to the visitor.

Knowledge and interest in recreational management, recreational pursuit, particularly with water based activities, public speaking, program development, site planning and general friendliness are strong assets when working at this Park

Rosebud Battlefield is a cultural/ historical themed Park, commemorating the development of the American West and the conflicts arising between Native American residents and incoming settlers and the adventures of the Post-Civil War Era and US Armed Forces. Specifically, The Battle of the Rosebud, an event included in the Great Sioux Wars of 1876, and its significance to the defeat of George Armstrong Custer and the 7th Cavalry eight days later, make this site and the event a major incident in American History.



The Park is managed at a very high level of primitiveness, hoping to provide an environment as close to 1876 as possible, which is a major asset to this Park. Also available is a 3000 year old Buffalo Jump with petroglyphs, eagle catching pits and battle related interpretation. This 3052 acres site provides recreational



opportunity for historical learning, nature and wildlife viewing and the ability to visit a quiet undeveloped portion of Montana.

Member activities will include developing interpretation programming and possibly constructing venues to enhance this interpretation. Weed control activities are very important in land management. This program will require the oversight of a crew for a limited time to identify and treat weeds in various manners. Additionally, biologic weed control is an important factor. A potential program to introduce limited grazing is being evaluated which will need continuous monitoring, development of a monitoring system and communication with grazers along with the Manager and Maintenance Foreman. Interactions with Native American Tribes are important and will require travel and strong communications skills. Adaptability will definitely be needed to work at this Park.

Knowledge and interest in history, archeological studies and interpretation, public speaking, land and resource management and the ability to work without supervision will be closely recruited for.

The Decker area offers the potential to develop many skills and form many ideas that will be useful in Professional Development and potential future decisions not only for the Member, but in Division Programs and management. It can be a rare opportunity for anybody.

Montana State Parks AmeriCorps members perform capacity building activities. Their service revolves around the program goals listed below in order to ensure that they do not displace workers or take part in any prohibited or unallowable activities as outlined in AmeriCorps regulations. Montana State Parks AmeriCorps members *will* likely participate in activities that involve recurring contact with vulnerable populations.

Member will contribute to the following program goals:

- Improve park land
- Expand educational and interpretive programs
- Increase volunteer capacity*
- Enhance outreach and awareness of state parks
- Participate in service activities including National Days of Service**
- Respond to disasters, when called upon to do so by the program

Specific Position Responsibilities:

- Improve park land
 - Weed assessment and control using chemicals, physical pulling and biological control methods
 - Weed mapping with aid of GPS and GIS.
 - Develop forage use system and monitor
 - Control avenues of trespass from livestock and artifact finders
- Expand educational and interpretive programs

- Plan Interpretation Center at TR
- Construct Peep Site venues for Battle related sites at Rosebud
- Plan Annual Anniversary Program at Rosebud
- Prepare and give interpretation programs
- Increase volunteer capacity
 - Help develop Camp Host Opportunities
 - Increase volunteer efforts regarding maintenance
- Enhance outreach and awareness of state parks
 - Develop outreach thru any media to increase awareness of Rosebud and potential threats
 - Look to developing Friends Group
 - Program to increase non-reservation use at TR

Minimum Requirements:

- Over 18 with a high school diploma or GED; college degree or equivalent work experience preferred
- A United States citizen, United States National, or legal permanent resident alien
- Demonstrated leadership skills
- Ability to take initiative, handle multiple projects, track details essential to project completion, analyze information, and meet deadlines
- Strong ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing with diverse groups of people
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Basic computer proficiency
- Passion for the outdoors and enthusiasm for enhancing Montana's state parks
- A driver's license and personal means of transportation within the state of Montana
- Must pass the requirements of the National Service Criminal History Check

Benefits:

- Living allowance of \$4,050 over 18 week term of service
- An AmeriCorps Education Award of \$2,200 upon successful completion of service. This award can be used to pay education costs at qualified institutions of higher education, for educational training and resources, or to repay qualified student loans. Members aged 55 and over may transfer the education award to a child, grandchild or foster child.
- Eligible for deferment on qualified student loans
- Guaranteed health benefits and child care assistance if qualified
- Experience and training working in the fields of outdoor recreation, parks management, interpretive services, education, community outreach, and volunteer management
- Opportunity to live, work and be part of the team amid the natural wonders and cultural heritage of Montana State Parks

To Apply:

Montana State Parks AmeriCorps only accepts applications through the my.americorps.gov portal. To apply, you can follow the link [HERE](#) to our application within my.americorps.gov. Please note, there is only one application for all of our 1700 hour positions, placement preference will be assessed during the interview process.

* Volunteer activity facilitated by AmeriCorps members supports the management and operation of State Parks. These activities do not include any prohibited or unallowable activities as outlined in AmeriCorps regulations.

**Service activities will center around the preceding program goals as well as provide unique opportunities for members to engage in service to non-profit community organizations that provide support to those in need, including victims of national disasters, individuals and families in poverty, veterans, homeless animals, and other groups. Service projects will take place on and around designated National Days of Service as well as other AmeriCorps organized events, such as member trainings. Service activities will not include any prohibited or unallowable activities as outlined in AmeriCorps regulations.

The Montana State Parks AmeriCorps Program, as administered by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, shall provide equal access to opportunities provided by the Program and shall not discriminate against any person because of race, creed, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Minority candidates are encouraged to apply. Reasonable accommodations will be provided for qualified individuals with known disabilities unless doing so would result in an undue hardship. The accommodation must be essential for the Member to perform his/her service successfully. Funds for reasonable accommodations are available for use by members with disabilities who have been offered a position with an AmeriCorps Program and require an accommodation to fulfill the essential functions of their service.