

# Position Description

## 915 Hour AmeriCorps Member

### Location: Helena



**Term of service:** June 6 – November 18, 2022

**Service schedule:** Member will serve a minimum of 915 hours over a 24-week term, averaging 40 hours per week with 40 hours of “Time Not Scheduled to Serve” to be used as sick, vacation, or other personal leave. This position requires a weekend work schedule.

**Position Summary:**

As Montana’s population of residents and visitors increases, our need for education programs is growing dramatically. Demands include grizzly bear awareness and safety training, keeping wildlife wild programs and promoting stewardship.

The AmeriCorps member, working as Wildlife Stewardship Education Instructor, will perform capacity-building activities in the service of conservation education. They will report to the Wildlife Stewardship Outreach Specialist. The member will be based in Helena, Montana. However, this position entails education outreach that may extend to other Central and Southwest Montana communities. These conservation education programs will focus primarily on wildlife stewardship and reducing human-wildlife conflict. Programs are delivered to regional elementary, secondary and college students, as well as members of the public and local organizations.

Their service revolves around the program goals listed below 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 and water
- Expand educational and interpretive programs
- Increase volunteer capacity\*
- Enhance outreach and awareness of state parks
- Other
- Participate in service activities including National Days of Service\*\*
- Respond to disasters, when called upon to do so by the program



**Member will contribute to the following Wildlife Stewardship goals:**

- Enhance awareness around keeping wildlife wild, wildlife stewardship and bear safety
- Improve wildlife stewardship education and outreach
- Expand educational and interpretive programs to Montana communities

**Specific Position Responsibilities:**

- Enhance awareness around keeping wildlife wild, wildlife stewardship and bear safety
  - Visit FWP managed sites to discuss wildlife safety with visitors, to help reduce human wildlife conflicts
  - Identify different audiences (VRBOs, tourists, campers, etc.) and develop targeted outreach to those audiences
- Improve wildlife stewardship education and outreach
  - Develop and/or distribute materials that promote wildlife safety and stewardship and are consistent with FWP's wildlife safety and stewardship messages.
  - Work with FWP staff, and partner agencies and organizations with common outreach goals
  - Use Regional education trunks to deliver programs
  - Participate in service activities and events including National Days of Service
- Expand educational and interpretive programs to Montana Communities
  - Provide wildlife stewardship programs in communities and schools
  - Provide wildlife stewardship, keeping wildlife wild, and bear aware workshops with bear spray training, presentations, events, and other education in collaboration with local outdoor groups and partners (Forest Service, National Park Service)
  - Drive truck and bear trailer to events
  - Identify list of potential partners to help spread bear aware messaging, such as VRBOs, local businesses, etc., and create connections with these partners.

**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  
Willingness to drive truck and trailer (training will be provided)

**Benefits:**

- Living allowance of \$364/week
- An AmeriCorps Education Award of \$3,172.50 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
- Experience and training working in the fields of natural resources, 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

**To Apply:**

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks 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 915-hour positions, placement preference will be assessed during the interview process.

**Application Deadline:**

Applications are due by May 10, 2022.

\* Volunteer activity facilitated by AmeriCorps members supports the management and operation of Montana Fish, Wildlife and 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.

*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.*