

Position Description

1715-Hour AmeriCorps Member

Region 3 Communication and Education Specialist
Location: Bozeman



Term of service: January 17, 2023 – November 17, 2023

Service schedule: Member will serve a minimum of 1,715 hours over a 44-week term, averaging 41 hours per week with 80 hours of “Time Not Scheduled to Serve” to be used as sick, vacation, or other personal leave.

Position Summary:

The Region 3 Communication and Education Program manager (CEPM) has the lead responsibility for external communication in the region and administers conservation education programs, including Hunter and Bowhunter Education, aquatic education, and other wildlife-related educational programs. These conservation education programs are delivered to regional elementary, secondary and college students, as well as members of the public and local organizations. The CEPM also presents instructional outdoor workshops to teachers and youth and conservation group leaders. Southwest Montana is one of the fastest growing areas in the state, and the demand for conservation education programming and public outreach has risen dramatically. Demands include “Recreate Responsibly” outreach to improve behaviors on public and private lands (Leave No Trace ethics, landowner relations, etc.), as well as grizzly bear awareness and safety training, water safety, trapper education, and efforts to recruit, retain, and reactive hunters and anglers.

This education AmeriCorps member would 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.

Member will contribute to the following program goals:

- Assist in delivering educational programming in Region 3
- Expand and evaluate existing educational programming
- Assess and improve educational materials offered in the region
- Enhance outreach and awareness of educational programs offered by FWP
- Participate in service activities including National Days of Service*

Member will contribute to the following FWP education goals:

- Improve Recreate Responsibly education and outreach
- Expand educational and interpretive programs
- Enhance outreach and awareness of grizzly bears and safety
- Enhance FWP assistance to Hunter/Bowhunter Education instructors



- Enhance participation in the National Archery in the Schools Program
- Participate in service activities and events including National Days of Service

Specific Position Responsibilities:

- Expand educational and interpretive programs
 - Improve education trunks at Region 3 office
 - Help upgrade the Aquatic Education (Hooked on Fishing) program curriculum in collaboration with classes in the program (72)
 - Help coordinate Hunter/Bowhunter Education courses with volunteer instructors
- Expand regional capacity to respond to requests at education events
 - Develop a connection with local NGOs, schools and other interested groups
 - Develop materials, presentations and other content that can broadly meet requests from educational groups
- Enhance outreach and awareness of grizzly bears and safety
 - Develop bear aware workshops with bear spray training, presentations, and other education in collaboration with FWP's wildlife stewardship staff, local outdoor groups and partners (Forest Service, National Park Service)
 - Identify list of potential partners to help spread Bear Aware messaging, such as VRBOs, local businesses, etc., and create connections with these partners
- Enhance outreach and awareness of state parks
 - Help coordinate educational materials and programs through the regional state parks and identify consistent messaging for conservation education programs
- Enhance participation in the National Archery in the Schools Program
 - Improve coordination with certified schools in the NASP program and help enhance NASP programming through trainings and communications
 - Assist in organizing a NASP tournament in Region 3
- Participate in service activities and events including National Days of Service
 - Help at educational events including family fishing days, hunter education courses, bird education field trips, and community events

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 \$11,294 over 32-week term of service
- An AmeriCorps Education Award of \$4,441.50 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 1215-hour positions, placement preference will be assessed during the interview process.

Application Deadline:

Applications are due by December 23, 2022

*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 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.