



South Fork of the Snake River Graduate Internship

US Bureau of Land Management Upper Snake Field Office, Idaho Falls, Idaho
University of Idaho, Conservation Social Sciences Department

Start Date options: May or August 2013

The Bureau of Land Management in Idaho Falls and the University of Idaho's Department of Conservation Social Sciences (CSS) are recruiting a graduate intern to assist in the management of the South Fork of the Snake River and St. Anthony Sand Dunes while completing a Master of Science in Natural Resources in CSS. The internship project will serve as the basis for the graduate student's Master of Science project or thesis. The current internship project will focus on producing applied outputs that will give the intern hands on experience and insights into the practice of recreation management on public lands/rivers/dunes (please see major duties below).

BLM staff will supervise the field research; University faculty will supervise the development of the research methods, data collection, and construction of reports. The intern will receive a graduate research assistantship for two years (4 semesters, plus summer), which includes an out-of-state tuition waiver.

This internship will take place in Moscow during the academic year (late August through early May) and in the Idaho Falls District, Upper Snake Field Office during the summer (mid-May through mid-August 2013 and 2014). The position is designed to assist the BLM recreation staff in developing and implementing a visitor capacity study for the St. Anthony's Sand Dunes, working as a recreation technician for the Field office, and participating in related recreation projects as needed.

The graduate intern will preferably start in May 2013, working in the field with BLM staff. The intern will split their time between internship duties, which will include collecting contact information from visitors at the St. Anthony's Sand Dunes and recreation technician duties (see description below). The intent of the first field season is to familiarize the intern with the area, to meet key BLM staff and to interact with the public. During the 2013/2014 academic year, the intern will take relevant courses and work with UI faculty and BLM staff to develop a visitor capacity study at the St. Anthony's Sand Dunes. Data collection will occur during summer 2014. The intern will analyze findings and complete a report and thesis or project during the 2014/2015 academic year.

Major duties for the recreation technician may include:

1. Administration of the South Fork of the Snake River Interagency Fee Program, including collection and deposit of fees, visitor contacts and education, compliance, project implementation, and interagency management efforts.
2. Assist with the administration and compliance of eight interagency Special Recreation Use Permits associated with outfitting and guiding on the South Fork. Assist with administration of ten additional permits on the Main Snake River, Teton River and Henrys Fork.
3. Provide visitor contacts and education in support of river related regulations and the Fee Program.
4. Patrol the South Fork Corridor on a regular basis to monitor visitor use, monitor dispersed camp areas, ensure compliance with regulations, resolve conflicts, and make management recommendations.

5. Assist maintenance crews with day-to-day maintenance efforts including trash pickup, facility improvement and repair, signing efforts, and scheduled project work.
6. Assist with program management, recreation site planning, and monitoring recreation sites in the support of river management efforts.
7. Assist in administering the fee program at Egin Lakes Campground and Day Use Access Site (Egin). This includes compliance for both overnight camping and day use.
8. Help count and collect fees for the Egin fee program.
9. Assist staff with dune patrols. This would involve riding in the passenger seat of a dune off-road vehicle and collecting GPS data, as well as installing route markers/signs.
10. Collect and analyze the recreation site counter data for the dunes and surrounding areas.
11. Communication: This position requires good communication skills. Staff is expected to answer visitor questions, collect fees, handle controversial situations, and collaborate with volunteers and BLM employees.

Master of Science Degree in Natural Resources

The intern must be accepted into the Master of Science in Natural Resources program through the Department of Conservation Social Sciences at the University of Idaho. Applicants must have an earned Bachelor's degree. Admissions is based on undergraduate grades, evidence of ability to complete graduate-level work, letters of recommendation, GRE scores, and the compatibility of the student's educational and career objectives with areas of concentration in the department. For more information about the Department of Conservation Social Sciences please visit: <http://www.uidaho.edu/cnr/css>

Requirements

1. Coursework or background in social science, resource recreation or a related conservation or planning field
2. High academic ability (based on grades, GRE scores, and evidence of performance)
3. Experience working in the field
4. Excellent written and oral communication skills
5. Interest in working with the public
6. Interest in working with a federal agency in the future
7. Valid driver's license

To Apply

- 1) Please submit a resume and a letter explaining your interest and qualification for this position to:

Professor Tammi Laninga
Dept. of Conservation Social Sciences
University of Idaho
875 Perimeter Drive MS 1139
Moscow, ID 83844-1139

- 2) Complete a University of Idaho Graduate Application found at the following website:

<http://www.uidaho.edu/graduateadmissions>

For Additional information please contact:

Monica Zimmerman, BLM, at 208-524-7543; monica_zimmerman@blm.gov

Tammi Laninga, CSS, at 208-885-7117; laninga@uidaho.edu