Forest Service Internship Opportunity

During the 2014 summer season, the Pike National Forest-South Park Ranger District anticipates filling two Forest Service Internship opportunities. The South Park Ranger District includes 540,296 acres ranging in elevations from 7,100 to 14,285 feet.

Most of the district is located in Park County, Colorado with a small portion in Teller County, Colorado. A very active mining industry once thrived in South Park, and when the local village of Tarryall (or Grab-all as many called it) turned a cold shoulder to newcomers, the town of Fairplay was born. Today, Fairplay is the main hub of South Park and draws in visitors from all over the world for hiking, camping, fishing, horseback riding, ATV-ing, and much more.

Duties and Responsibilities

The Forest Service Internship positions fall under the Division of Recreation in the South Park office. Duties may include: staffing visitor centers in Fairplay, Wilkerson Pass, and Boreas Pass; providing area information to forest users; staffing special events such as Burro Days and Railroad Day; and developing and presenting educational programs on the geology, hydrology, ecosystems, natural history, or cultural history of the area. Programs will be presented to forest visitors, local community groups, and summer youth organizations.

Qualifications

Applicants need to be currently enrolled in a college or university working towards an undergraduate or graduate degree. Majors can include but are not limited to History, Education, Environmental Sciences, Parks and Recreation, Social Sciences, or Biology. We are looking for outgoing students who enjoy working and communicating with adults and children. Experience working in an environmental setting and presenting education programs is helpful but not required.

Training

All interns will be provided with two weeks of training which includes an orientation to the Forest Service and South Park Ranger District, interpretive and education program development, First Aid, CPR and specific training.

On the job training is provided by experienced VIS or recreation staff members prior to the interns being placed in the field on their own.
The Internship positions will begin May 19, 2014 and end August 17, 2014. (Also accepting applications for Fall, 2014) Dates are flexible to accommodate school schedules. The Forest Service anticipates filling two internship positions for the 2014 summer season. Interns work a 40-hour workweek including weekends. A daily stipend of $15.00 is given for each day worked.

A Driver's License is required. Daily assignments may include using a government vehicle to drive to Boreas Pass, Wilkerson pass, or various areas within the district. The intern is responsible for travel to and from school/residence and the Forest for the summer season.

Uniforms

This is a uniformed position and the uniform is provided. The intern uniform consists of green jeans, a shirt of choice, a green vest and a green ball cap. As some mornings can be cold and some positions and duties require Forest Service staff to work outdoors, outerwear is also provided.

Housing

Housing is available and is shared by other intern and seasonal staff. The housing is furnished with basic necessities. Bed linens, pillows, blankets, and towels will need to be brought with you. Housing is FREE OF CHARGE. All utilities are included. Each housing unit has a full kitchen. Cable television is also included as well as local telephone usage and internet service. Cell phone service works well with most carriers in Fairplay.

Application Procedure

For those interested in the Forest Service Internship, send a resume and two letters of recommendation to the Internship Coordinator. Applications will be reviewed continuously. Early applicants will be given first consideration.

Pike National Forest
South Park Ranger District
C/O Nicholas DiGiaccio
PO Box 219
Fairplay, CO 80440

For more information about the Internship Program, contact Internship Coordinator Nicholas DiGiaccio at (719) 836-3851, email: ndigiaccio@fs.fed.us

To learn more about the South Park Ranger District check out the district web page at:

www.fs.fed.us/r2/psicc/sopa

An internship with the South Park Ranger District will be an unbelievable opportunity for a student to get experience in the field of recreation management, environmental studies, and interactive educational programs in the most visited National Forest in Colorado. It will also be a great chance for a student to travel to a unique and stunning region of the country amongst the Rocky Mountains and Pike National Forest. There are plenty of interesting activities that attract visitors to our area including: mountain biking, fishing, hiking, rock climbing, interpretive programs, horseback riding, and camping.

Come join the crew at South Park Ranger District!