

## **SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION**

### **Rio Grande Seasonal Recreation Technician**

The San Juan Mountains Association (SJMA) is seeking three (3) Rio Grande Seasonal Recreation Technicians, one position working out of the Saguache Ranger District and two positions working out of the Divide Ranger District, to provide excellent customer service and top-notch visitor information on behalf of the Rio Grande National Forest.

#### **Background**

Founded in 1988, SJMA is a nonprofit cooperating (or interpretive) association that works in partnership with the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest, the San Juan National Forest, the Rio Grande National Forest, and the Bureau of Land Management. With fourteen (14) bookstore/ visitor information offices, SJMA supports federal land management agencies throughout Southwest Colorado.

#### **Job Description**

**JOB SUMMARY:** The Rio Grande Seasonal Recreation Technicians will provide forest recreation information and maintain recreation areas for the U.S. Forest Service – Rio Grande National Forest, Divide and Saguache Ranger Districts. The incumbents will work with the Ranger District staff to maintain recreation areas and provide public information in a highly professional and courteous manner. This position will work under the supervision of the Ranger Districts on a daily basis.

**LOCATION:** The positions will be based out of the Rio Grande National Forest (RGNF) offices and will be 100% in person or in the field. Please express your preference of location in your application (Saguache Ranger District or Divide Ranger District).

**SEASONAL POSITION:** Starting May 2022 for approximately 16 weeks. Forty hours per week will be authorized and may consist of either a 5-day/ 8-hour work schedule, 4-day/ 10-hour schedule or some other schedule that will meet the needs of the forest.

**COVID-19 Policy:** Employees must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. If selected, the applicant must submit proof of vaccination. Employees are expected to comply with SJMA's employee handbook and Forest Service mask wearing and social distancing protocols.

#### **GENERAL DUTIES AND CUSTOMER SERVICE**

- Ensures recreation areas are maintained in accordance with standards and reports on condition of area. Cleans developed and dispersed recreation sites. installs and maintains information boards, travel signs, regulatory signs and other signs associated with recreation sites, travel management and safety.

- Provides detailed information about recreation opportunities to Forest visitors and explains the Forest Service rules and regulations. Provides information on resource management practices, regulations, and current conditions. Answers questions from visitors. Collects, compiles and summarizes information for recreation data management systems. Provides input for programming and planning. Provides specific information concerning camping and other area regulations such as fire, safety, and sanitation.
- Keeps records of visitor use levels, types, and patterns. Prepares reports on visitor used patterns. Makes sure that portals are properly signed, and bulletin boards are maintained.
- Performs routine maintenance at dispersed recreation sites including site cleanup and naturalizing.
- Serves as inspector for recreation area cleanup and/or maintenance contracts. Maintains contact with and provides support to Campground Host(s).
- Inspects recreation areas, areas of concentrated public use, and special use permits for compliance with the permit and the management plans, public health, and safety.
- Patrols wilderness areas to ensure they are operated, used and maintained in accordance with Wilderness Management Plan. Cleans both roadside and/or backcountry dispersed sites. Naturalizes sites where necessary, in order to control use and prevent resource damage.
- Monitors the logistics required for completion of district recreation projects associated with developed and dispersed maintenance and reconstruction.
- Performs safety hazard analyses of public recreation use areas and takes or recommends corrective action.
- Conducts informal and formal education programs addressing bear safety, Leave No Trace camping, angler etiquette, and wilderness philosophy.
- Encourage visitors to “Leave No Trace” and “Tread Lightly” and to comply with applicable laws, rules and regulations.
- Become familiar with common destinations around the RGNF.
- Become familiar with Forest Service organization, functions, activities, facilities, and personnel to provide information to visitors.
- Become familiar with common destinations and permitted uses of the Rio Grande National Forest.
- Responsible for maintenance and care of assigned vehicles, boats, and field equipment.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

## **SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS:**

The successful candidate will possess some combination of the following skills/qualifications:

- Passion for public lands

- Basic knowledge of recreation inventory/planning systems to provide input for recreation program management.
- Ability to effectively meet and deal with contractors, coworkers, and Forest visitors; and demonstrate recreation principles.
- Ability to plan and carry out education programs addressing bear safety, Leave No Trace camping, river management, angler etiquette, angler conservation and wilderness philosophy.
- Skill to use hand tools (i.e., shovels, hoes, adze, axes), and ability to instruct crews in their proper use. Chainsaw and crosscut use may be required upon training and certification.
- Knowledge of techniques for the safe operation of motor vehicles sufficient to obtain a valid State driver's license and the ability to negotiate travel in a forest setting.
- Friendly and personable
- Strong communication skills
- Great organizational skills
- Ability to work independently
- Reliable
- Knowledge of the Rio Grande National Forest and surrounding areas
- Knowledge or willingness to learn local recreation sites
- Knowledge or willingness to learn Forest Service regulations

### **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:**

B.S. or B.A. degree a plus. Additional training in Business Administration, Outdoor Recreation, Marketing and/or Communications is of additional interest.

A Forest Service Vehicle will be used. A valid state Driver's License is required, as well as a good driving record.

The work requires walking and climbing in steep, uneven terrain, exposure to adverse weather and insects, cold water, performing physical labor, bending, lifting and carrying up to 50 pounds or more. Work is performed outdoors where there is exposure to extremes of weather and temperature.

**Compensation:** This is a seasonal position that pays \$15-17 per hour. One hour of paid sick time is accumulated for every thirty hours worked. Full-time employees (40 hrs/wk) receive recognized holidays off with pay. Any other time off must be approved by a supervisor and will be unpaid.

### **To Apply:**

Those interested in the position are asked to **submit a resume, letter of interest, and professional references**, that demonstrate their qualifications and interest in the position. The cover letter should succinctly describe the applicant's goals, suitability for

the position, and other pertinent facts that may not appear in the resume.

No phone calls please. SJMA is an equal opportunity employer. Please send application package to **[riooperations@sjma.org](mailto:riooperations@sjma.org)**