

## **WILDERNESS STEWARDSHIP CREW MEMBER**

### **Position Description**

**JOB SUMMARY:** Do you love wilderness, backpacking, and camping in the mountains? San Juan Mountains Association Wilderness Stewardship Crew Members operate under the supervision of a Crew Leader as a 4 person team in rugged, remote, and beautiful backcountry wilderness areas in Southwest Colorado. This position entails significant backpacking with tools and equipment to many high elevation wilderness areas in a variety of weather conditions. The crew performs wilderness monitoring, makes public contacts, conducts trail maintenance, clears trails of downed trees with crosscut saws. The Wilderness Stewardship Crew will conduct a variety of backcountry wilderness projects under the supervision/guidance of a SJMA crew leader and in partnership with Rio Grande National Forest staff. Crew Members will receive a broad spectrum of relevant training and will end the season with a range of hands-on wilderness stewardship experience.

**LOCATION:** SJMA is housed in the San Juan Public Lands Center In Durango, Colorado, and these positions will be primarily field based. Work is performed in remote backcountry locations (i.e. Weminuche Wilderness) for multiple days at a time.

**HOURS and SEASON:** This is a seasonal, full time, 40 hour per week position (non- exempt, full-time). SJMA's field season runs from mid May – mid August and will generally follow a four-day on, three-day off work schedule, with crew working 10 hour days. A limited number of eight- day hitches may be required to access remote project locations.

**PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:** As a part of the Wilderness Stewardship Crew, Members will work together as a 4 person team to:

- Improve trail access in wilderness areas with crosscuts saws, axes
- Increase public knowledge of Leave No Trace, wilderness etiquette, and safety
- Complete wilderness characteristic monitoring and data collection
- Positively contribute to the crew experience and perform effectively as a team member during potentially stressful and difficult conditions
- Engage in strenuous physical activity in all types of weather, and at high elevations.
- Communicate effectively and retain a positive attitude
- Abide by all safety protocols and wear required personal protective equipment.
- Backcountry overnight travel, including navigation and emergency response planning

### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Backpacking and backcountry camping experience is a must.
- Physical fitness- ability to lift and carry 50-75 lb, and backpack up to 12 miles/day in all types of weather and at high elevations
- Demonstrated team-based outdoor experience
- Knowledge of/passion for Wilderness, including principles, concepts and policies
- Map and compass, backcountry navigation and travel

- Tool use and safety (crosscut saw experience a plus)
- Experience with public engagement, including public speaking and education
- Data collection experience
- Valid driver's license, clean driving record, reliable transportation

**COMPENSATION:**

- \$16.00- 18.00 per hour DOE
- Travel reimbursement for personal vehicle use to work sites
- Uniform, rain jacket, gear stipend.
- Training- Wilderness First Aid, Crosscut Saw Training, Leave No Trace.
- End-of-season bonus awarded to crew members who complete a full field season
- SJMA offers a Simple IRA plan with a 3% match, and 1 hour of sick time per 30 hours worked, per Colorado law.

**TO APPLY:** email a cover letter and resume in one pdf file with title " Crew Member Application" to [jobs@sjma.org](mailto:jobs@sjma.org) by April 1, 2023

Offers of employment will be subject to satisfactory completion of a background check and drug test, if applicable to the position.