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## **NOTICE OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Youth Program Assistant Crew Leader (Seasonal/Temporary)**

Wild Arizona, in partnership with the Coronado National Forest Douglas Ranger District, is pleased to announce our six-week summer residential Youth Conservation Corps program for 2024!

This year we are seeking two assistant crew leaders to work alongside two crew leaders and a program proctor to supervise a group of ten high school aged crew members. They will take part in leadership, conservation and wilderness stewardship work in the Chiricahua Mountains of southeast Arizona. This opportunity is expected not to exceed a total of 45 days.

Two teams of two (one crew lead and one assistant crew lead) will work alternating weeks over the course of the summer on a Sunday – Sunday schedule. Trail work projects by the crew will typically take place Monday through Thursday each week, while Friday will be utilized by Forest Service staff to work with the crews for educational and special field projects. Saturday and Sunday can include trips to nearby towns for resupply and other logistical needs, as well as for recreational and educational opportunities. Housing is provided during the 8-day work period at a Forest Service facility or camping/backpacking during the active work week. Transportation will be provided to and from Tucson on Sundays. Selected candidates will need to provide their own transportation to Tucson in order to travel to the Douglas, AZ area via provided transportation.

Selected applicants must supply their own work clothes, backpacks, hiking boots and camping gear. All specialty equipment such as trail tools, group camping gear, etc., will be provided by Wild Arizona or the U.S. Forest Service for the length of the project. Assistant crew leaders will be responsible for the care and return of any equipment provided by Wild Arizona.

### **Project Locations**

Chiricahua Mountains, Douglas Ranger District, Coronado National Forest near Douglas, Arizona

### **Deadline to Apply**

April 1, 2024

### **Project Start Date**

June 9, 2024

**Project End Date**

July 21, 2024

**Important Note on Employment Dates**

Assistant crew leads will not be expected to be at the program for the entirety of the project. Each assistant crew lead works eight days on followed by six days off and is paired with a crew lead. One of the assistant crew leads will work the following dates: June 9 - June 16, June 23 - June 30, and July 7 - July 14. The other assistant crew lead will work the following dates: June 16 - June 23, June 30 - July 7, and July 14 - July 21. Although not guaranteed, the YCC program proctor will try to accommodate the scheduling needs of assistant crew leads.

**Program Overview**

Wild Arizona's mission is to protect, link, and restore wild lands and waters across Arizona and beyond, for the enrichment and health of all citizens, and to ensure Arizona's native plants and animals a lasting home in wild nature. We organize and amplify multi-community voices of support for legislation and special designations; advocate for conservation science-based environmental policy and planning; and cultivate stewardship, social/environmental awareness, and well-being through outdoor volunteerism, science, and education.

We seek assistant crew leaders who demonstrate high standards in work quality, diligence, reliability, compassion, excellent judgment, and a desire to care for the environment.

**Job Description**

Assistant crew leaders will be responsible along with the crew lead for managing ten crew members for seven days a week, whether at the permanent Forest Service facility that we will be basing out of, in car camping scenarios during the workweek, or when spiked out in a backcountry camp for up to four days at a time. Responsibilities will include interpersonal behavior management, physical and mental health management and care, camp chore management and distribution, camp kitchen management, and outdoor skill and conservation education. Assistant crew leaders will also be working alongside the crew during the day on trail maintenance and habitat restoration activities (4 days a week) and during collaboration with Forest Service staff (one day a week) as they provide educational opportunities about various agency career paths and specialities.

Assistant crew leaders will be responsible for assisting the crew leads in implementing a camp management plan that engages all crew members in camp maintenance activities, including meal planning and teaching crew members how to prepare group food for 12-14 people. All food will be purchased by the crew leaders and paid for by Wild Arizona. Assistant crew leaders will also be responsible for helping the crew leads manage the care and use of all gear while in the field including, but not limited to, kitchen supplies, tents, and other group gear.

Selected candidates will each be paired with a crew leader who has both leadership and conservation experience. Wild Arizona's program proctor will also be on site for the majority of the program, both training/supervising crew leaders and assistant crew leaders as well as teaching technical field skills to the crew. The proctor will also be responsible for communicating with parents and staff that are outside the field.

Following the completion of the YCC program at the end of July, there may be opportunity for selected applicants to transition onto Wild Arizona's Wild Stew Field Crew as full time crew members.

### **Essential Job Accountabilities & Functions**

#### **Leadership & Mentorship**

- Works collaboratively with the crew lead in managing, supervising, and participating in day-to-day work activities of the crew
- Helps implement daily and follow-up on-site discussions about ecology, wilderness, leadership and hands-on skills training
- Engages in weekly one on one meetings with program proctor
- Participates in Sunday debriefs with other crew leads/assistant crew lead and program proctor

#### **Safety & Risk Management**

- Along with crew lead monitors, manages, and promotes the crew's physical and emotional safety and health throughout the project
- Assists in transporting crews and equipment safely

#### **Physical Requirements**

- Required to walk on uneven, slippery terrain and kneel for extended periods of time
- Required to use hands to operate tools such as hand saws, pruners, picks, and shovels
- Able to carry a backpack weighing 50 pounds or more for 3-6 miles per day
- Must be able to speak, read, and write English
- A sense of humor and desire to make a positive impact for the environment are helpful

#### **Required Skills & Qualifications**

- Leadership with stewardship, trail, or other conservation skills
- Excellent organizational skills and the ability to stay on task
- Physically fit and able to work long days in adverse weather conditions
- High school diploma or GED certificate
- Must hold, at minimum, a current Wilderness First Aid and CPR certification
- Must have a valid driver's license and have a clean driving record
- Ability to work both independently and as a team member

- Ability to manage health and safety issues for physical crew work in a remote location

### **Preferred Qualifications**

- Experience as a crew member either in Wild Arizona's YCC program or other youth program
- Familiar with basic conservation skills including tool maintenance
- Previous or current participation in conservation volunteer work

### **How to Apply**

Please submit your cover letter, resume and two references to [lynne@wildarizona.org](mailto:lynne@wildarizona.org)

**Applications must be submitted by April 1, 2024.**

Assistant crew leaders will be compensated at \$16.50 per hour. The work schedule is 8 10-hour days (Sunday–Sunday) followed by 6 days off. Payroll is provided via direct deposit twice monthly.

Food and housing are provided during the work week at no cost. You are responsible for your own food and housing on your days off. Travel to and from the project site from Tucson, AZ will be provided. The Forest Service admin site the project will be basing out of has a large kitchen and common building, with a dormitory to sleep in, as well as flush toilets and showers. While in the field during the workweek, the crew will typically be car camping or backpacking into a remote campsite.