



## **AmeriCorps Position Description**

**Position Title:** Hood River Watershed Group Intern (1 Position)

**Project Sponsor:** Hood River Soil and Water Conservation District <http://www.hoodriverswcd.org/>

**NWSA Mission:** This position is in partnership with the Northwest Service Academy (NWSA), an AmeriCorps program of ESD112. NWSA's mission is to preserve and restore the natural environment, and to develop community leaders through service and community partnerships. [www.nwserviceacademy.org](http://www.nwserviceacademy.org)

**Project Location:** 3007 Experiment Station Road, Hood River, OR 97031

**Position Summary:** The Hood River Watershed Project Intern will assist the Watershed Coordinator and various Hood River Watershed Group partners perform actions that benefit water quality, fish & wildlife, and ultimately the basin's human economy. Major objectives will include: a) helping to coordinate Hood River Watershed Group and Indian Creek Stewards meetings (20%), b) performing on-ground watershed restoration actions with partners (20%), c) providing technical assistance to landowners and others (10%), d) implementing environmental education and outreach (30%), and d) monitoring environmental results of the group's work (20%). Most of the restoration project work and monitoring will occur during the spring - fall field season. Education, reporting and technical assistance work will slant toward winter and fall.

### **General Responsibilities (to include, but not limited to):**

1. HRWG Coordination: Assist watershed coordinator prepare for, set-up, take notes and draft minutes for monthly Hood River Watershed Group and Indian Creek Stewards meetings.
2. Watershed Restoration: Assist Hood River Watershed Group partners plan, implement, maintain and monitor stream and riparian zone restoration projects involving tree planting, live staking and control of noxious weeds.
3. Technical Assistance: Help expand residential water conservation measures in and around the city of Hood River.
4. Education and Outreach: Provide class and field assistance to schools cooperating in the Indian Creek Stewards project, and help develop Hood River watershed brochures, maps signs and displays; Assist Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs design and implement a school-based fisheries educational program at the Parkdale hatchery; Plan, organize and implement the yearly HRWG Field Series of educational classes through HR Community Education.
5. Monitoring: Help implement a water quality monitoring project on Neal Creek designed to illustrate water quality improvements achieved by the Central Canal project; Help implement a water quality and water quantity monitoring project in streams that enter and exit from Lawrence Lake, a large irrigation reservoir; Provide support to allied agencies and tribes involved in stream, riparian zone, water quality, fish, wildlife and vegetation monitoring. This may include assisting the tribe with a Hood River watershed land-use assessment, and planning of a basin-wide water quality monitoring network.
6. Attend and complete all NWSA/AmeriCorps training and service requirements including orientation, trainings, team meetings and national service days.
7. Complete and submit all necessary NWSA/AmeriCorps paperwork and reports in a timely manner.
8. Wear an NWSA uniform and/or appropriate identifiers and required safety gear while performing service or attending official events.

### **Position Requirements:**

1. Personal vehicle is required for service activities and mileage reimbursement is approved.
2. Must have a valid driver's license, clean driving record and ability to provide documentation.
3. An independent, self-motivated, creative and resourceful individual who enjoys working cooperatively with diverse

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- groups of people.
4. Interest, education and experience in environmental science, hydrology, forestry, botany, fish biology, geology, or other natural resource field.
  5. Strong writing, computer, organization, interpersonal and communication skills.
  6. Ability to work a flexible schedule, including some evenings and weekends.
  7. Willingness to ask questions for clarification and job completion.
  8. A commitment to the goals of the Hood River Watershed Group, and the strictly voluntary and cooperative approach taken to achieve conservation.
  9. 21 years of age or older, at beginning of service term.
  10. U.S. citizen, national or lawful permanent resident.
  11. Possession of a high school diploma or equivalent, or commit to earning one prior to receiving an education award.
  12. Ability to commit to the full term of service for which they are applying.
  13. Must successfully pass a fingerprint criminal history background check provided through NWSA and/or Project Sponsor Agency.
  14. Regular and reliable attendance.
  15. Have not previously served two terms in an AmeriCorps\*State or National program. Members may serve up to three terms in a National Service Program, but only two terms may be within an AmeriCorps\*State or National program. Members are only eligible for an education award for their first two terms of service, regardless of the type of term (full or part-time) and regardless of the successful completion of that term.

### **Preferred Qualifications:**

1. Attend and travel to monthly HRWG, and other occasional meetings.
2. Desire to serve with people to promote education, environmental stewardship and an ethic of service.
3. Communicate and interact in a positive, professional manner with various populations including private landowners, businesses, governments, co-workers, volunteers, students and the general public.
4. Possession of a college bachelor's degree.
5. Good physical condition and willingness to accomplish strenuous field work.
6. Familiarity with the Columbia River Gorge region is helpful, but not required.

### **Member Benefits Include:**

1. A total taxable living allowance (before taxes) of \$1,140 per month (\$11,400 for the 10-month term).
2. Upon successful completion of a term of service, eligible members/leaders receive an education award of \$4,725. The education award can be used to repay qualified student loans, for further education in an accredited institution of higher learning, vocational or trade schools. The education award is taxed in the year that it is used.
3. Loan forbearance (after successful completion of a term of service, AmeriCorps will pay the accrued interest on qualified loans, which is taxable).
4. Basic medical insurance (covers members only, not dependents; vision and dental not included).
5. Child care allowance for those who qualify.
6. We can assist the member in finding low cost housing.

### **Transportation Information:**

1. Personal vehicle is required for this position.
2. Project site is not accessible by public transportation.

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**Application Deadline:** On-going until filled.

**Interviews:** Will interview as qualified applications are received.

**Service Dates:** January 11, 2010 - November 19, 2010

**NWSA Center:** Mt. Adams Center

**Type of position:** Individual Placement

**Length of Term:** 1700 hours

### **How to apply:**

**Step 1** - Complete your application in one of the following two ways:

Online at the AmeriCorps website **AmeriCorps Application** [www.americorps.gov/Default.asp](http://www.americorps.gov/Default.asp)

If you do not already have a username and password, you must **Create A Profile**

<https://my.americorps.gov/mp/login.do>

-Once you have logged in, create an application by clicking "Applications" under the "My AmeriCorps" menu.

-To apply to this specific position, click "Search Listings" under the "My AmeriCorps" menu and search for program name **Northwest Service Academy-MAC**.

-Select the position listing and click "Apply Now" at the bottom of the page.

### **OR**

Download application materials from the **How to Apply** <http://nwserviceacademy.org/apply.cfm> page of our website and submit them to Amanda Green:

- **Application** - Complete the NWSA AmeriCorps Application and submit it via email (preferable), mail, or fax.

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- **Two Written References** - Have your recommenders fill out the NWSA Reference Form and send it directly to NWSA. References may be submitted by email (preferable), mail, or fax.
- **Certification Form** - Print out, sign and date the Certification Form. This document must be mailed to our office.

**Step 2** - Send resume and cover letter to Amanda Green at [mac@esd112.org](mailto:mac@esd112.org).

**Questions?** Contact Amanda Green at 509-395-3465.