



IDAHO CONSERVATION CORPS Position Description



Position:	Seasonal Stewardship Program (SSP) – AmeriCorps Crew Member
Position Type:	A seasonal, field-based residential (camping) position.
Location:	Throughout Idaho
Living Allowance:	\$3,400.00 pro-rated throughout term of service \$1,538.30 AmeriCorps Education Award available after completion
Benefits:	Paid leadership training, professional trainings and certifications available, transportation
Program Dates:	See www.idahocc.org
Application Process:	Visit https://www.nwyouthcorps.org/joinNYC
Questions/Contact:	Eric Oliver, Program Coordinator erico@idahocc.org

Organization Overview

Idaho Conservation Corps (ICC) has operated in Idaho since the summer of 1992. ICC is a part of the Northwest Youth Corps (NYC), a non-profit organization dedicated to empowering youth and young adults to become successful, resilient members of their communities. To achieve this, ICC provides a variety of outdoors, conservation-specific programs to youth and young adults throughout Idaho emphasizing education, leadership, and personal growth.

Since 1984, NYC/ICC and its resource management partners have provided opportunities to over 20,000 youth and young adults to learn, grow, and experience success. NYC's programs serve over 800 youth and young adults annually, with programs operating in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and California.

Position Description

The Seasonal Stewardship Program (SSP) is an innovative AmeriCorps program designed to provide hands on training and experience to those interested in pursuing employment with conservation corps, land and water resource management agencies, and other outdoor careers. The SSP integrates team-based work projects, education, and on-site vocational training into an experience that prioritizes personal growth and the development of conservation work skills. Participants will develop technical skills working on a variety of conservation projects while developing the soft skills needed to be successful in the outdoor industry.

SSP participants spend eleven weeks camping, working, and travelling together as a four to eight-person team. Participants can expect to work on physically challenging conservation projects in any kind of weather, gaining hands on experience in the groundwork of stewardship. Evenings will be spent on various educational and recreational activities; including formal lessons taught by team members, group discussions, and stargazing around the campfire.

The SSP will focus on high priority conservation projects for land management partners such as the U.S. Forest Service, BLM, and Bureau of Reclamation. Some crews may be focused on forest thinning (chainsaws), while others may be focused on the restoration of at-risk landscapes and watersheds. Other projects may include trail maintenance or GIS mapping and survey. Each crew will have a project specialty and will receive training and certification appropriate to that theme.

Duties and Responsibilities

Training: The primary focus of the SSP program is to prepare members for fulltime employment with a combination of field work activity and industry-recognized trainings. Program participants will receive some or all of the following trainings and certifications depending on their crew's primary work focus: Herbicide Application, Chainsaw Operation, Leadership, Trail Construction and Maintenance, Brush Cutter Operation, Resource Management, Conflict Resolution, and Map and Compass Orienteering.

Work Project Participation: SSP Participants will be part of a four to eight-person crew led by one leader. Participants are responsible for the safe completion of assigned work projects in a timely manner to predetermined specifications under the direction of their Crew Leader. They work closely with program staff and other participants, paying specific attention to safe work practices, proper tool use, and work quality and efficiency. Projects may include trail building and maintenance, fuels reduction (chainsaw), tree planting, invasive species removal and herbicide application, fence construction, and park maintenance.

Development: SSP AmeriCorps Participants participate in educational group discussions at least two times a week. An Individual Development Plan will be created by each member to foster self-improvement and reflection as the program progresses.

Hours: During the 11-week program, crews typically work nine days on followed by five days off, although this schedule is variable and may include some hitches that are longer or shorter. Projects may be either front country (car camping) or backcountry. A campsite and transportation to the campsite with the crew will be provided for the days on with subsequent transportation back to our headquarters at the end of each "hitch." Housing is not provided on days off. Members must complete a minimum of 450 hours of service, averaging 80 hours per two-week hitch, including work, training, education, and travel time. A 30 minute lunch and at least two breaks will be provided each day. No vacation time is provided during this program.

Required Qualifications

- At least 19 years old
- Education: Minimum of a high school degree or working towards a high school degree. Course work in education, leadership, resource management, and recreation preferred.
- Experience: Applications will be reviewed considering all past work experience, outdoor recreation background, and volunteer experience relevant to this position. Prior experience in environmental studies, outdoor recreation, resource management, and familiarity with hand tools is desirable. Experience and certification in First Aid is not required but strongly encouraged.
- Physical Condition: All applicants must be in good physical condition and capable of working long hours on strenuous labor intensive projects. Work projects often require heavy lifting, constant bending, digging, and extensive backcountry travel. Applicants must be able to backpack 12 miles and lift up to 50 lbs.
- Due to the possible remote nature of this program, applicants must be comfortable with extremely limited contact with the outside world. There may be no opportunities for internet access and mail, and cell service may be extremely limited.
- Crewmembers must provide their own tent work clothing, sleeping bag, and sleeping pad.

Apply online at www.nwyouthcorps.org/JoinNYC. Please indicate **Seasonal Stewardship Program (SSP)** in your Cover Letter before submission. Contact Eric Oliver at erico@idahocc.org if you have any questions. Additional program information can be found at www.idahocc.org.

ICC is an Equal Opportunity Employer

The member will not engage in any prohibited activities as stated in the Member Service Agreement.

Member Signature

Date

