



Wildlands Internship

Position Summary:

ONDA will hire a team of two student interns who will work directly with Oregon Natural Desert Association's (ONDA) Program Coordinator to conduct Wilderness Study Area monitoring throughout central and eastern Oregon. Wildlands interns will gain first-hand knowledge about public land management and learn to conduct public lands monitoring and data analysis, develop leadership skills, and gain experience advocating for ONDA's conservation campaigns. The ideal candidate will have a passion for exploring some of Oregon's most remote public lands, the desire to develop their leadership skills, an interest in public lands conservation, the ability to hike long distances, and possess strong backcountry skills.

Internship Dates: June - July, 2020

This nine-week internship will begin in early June (based on student availability) and end in July or early August.

Hours and Location:

This position will average 40 hours/week and is based in Bend with the majority of the work week spent in remote backcountry locations throughout central and eastern Oregon. Work will be split approximately 85/15 between field work and office work.

General Responsibilities:

- Wildlands Monitoring (40%)
 - Complete all required wildlands monitoring training.
 - Spend three or more days at a time in the field car camping or backpacking.
 - Hike into Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) to document ecological conditions.
 - Drive remote routes to ensure that signs are posted where appropriate.
 - Complete light maintenance to restore appropriate conditions within Wilderness Study Areas.
 - Use Avenza, Gaia GPS, and GPS photo apps to gather field data.
 - Work with fellow intern on all aspects of the program.
- Leadership (40%)
 - Train small groups of ONDA volunteers to complete WSA monitoring.
 - Ensure volunteers are able to fulfill monitoring expectations.
 - Aid with trip logistics and planning.
- Data Analysis (10%)
 - Compile and download field data.
 - Learn to use GIS software to create monitoring reports for ONDA's public land agency partners.
- Outreach and Advocacy (10%)
 - Engage directly with ONDA's volunteers and serve as an ambassador for the organization when in the field.
 - Develop an understanding about ONDA's advocacy work throughout the high desert.

- Learn about responsible travel/recreation in desert landscapes and help facilitate adherence of desert best practices with volunteers.

Preferred skills and abilities:

- A genuine passion for exploring Oregon's high desert.
- Desire to learn about ONDA's mission and key program areas.
- Computer proficiency, especially with word processing, spreadsheets, and data management.
- Ability to work independently in a remote field setting.
- Desire to develop leadership skills.
- Ability to hike up to 10 miles in a day.
- Strong problem solving and decision making skills.
- Ability to drive on rugged dirt roads.
- Leave No Trace backcountry skills.
- Familiarity with GPS and GIS platforms.
- Strong verbal, written and organizational abilities.
- Interest in spending the majority of each week camping in the backcountry.
- A valid driver's license and good driving record is required.

Intern Benefits:

Selected applicants will work closely with ONDA's staff to gain knowledge about high desert restoration, public lands policy, field data collection, leadership skills, and database management. In addition to gaining valuable hands-on experience, the Wildlands Interns will have food and gas paid for while in the field and access to ONDA's field and camping supplies. The internship is paid in one of two ways: 1) the student may obtain funding through their university or college via a grant, scholarship, or fellowship, or 2) ONDA will provide a \$900 monthly stipend paid to the intern as reimbursement toward their academic studies.

To Apply:

Please email your cover letter, resume, availability (preferred start time is beginning of June), and two references to **Renee Patrick, ONDA's Program Coordinator, stewardshipcoordinator@onda.org** no later than **5pm Pacific Time on Wednesday March 25, 2020**. Please limit your cover letter and resume to no more than two pages.

For three decades Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) has connected people to their public lands and championed the conservation and stewardship of central and eastern Oregon's wild lands, waterways and wildlife. ONDA's mission is to protect, defend and restore Oregon's high desert. From championing land protection to speaking out for fish and wildlife, ONDA's members and supporters sustain the natural character of Oregon's high desert. ONDA envisions a high desert in Oregon where eight million acres of public lands are conserved to ensure that fish and wildlife thrive and wild places exist for all people to treasure and explore, now and always.

ONDA is committed to diversity, equity and inclusion and seeks to create an inclusive environment for all volunteers, partners, collaborators and employees. People of color and candidates from other historically marginalized communities are encouraged to apply.

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