



YOSEMITE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM



2019 Summer Internship Position Descriptions

National Park Service: Visitor and Resource Protection - Wilderness

Purpose:

As a Wilderness Ranger working in both the front and backcountry the intern will encounter a wide variety of situations requiring the individual to use personal best judgment, problem solving and teamwork both in the field and in the Wilderness Center. From this array of encounters the intern will develop customer service, communication skills, learn visitor and resource management tools, wilderness skills and values, and develop a deeper understanding of themselves. Past employees have remarked on how much more confident they feel and that they have more faith in their skills to handle dynamic situations.



Description of Duties:

This position is based in one of the four wilderness centers in Yosemite National Park. The position is split out to be about 40% in the field and 60% in the wilderness center. In the Wilderness Centers, the intern position will advise backcountry users on trails and trail conditions, answer general park information questions, issue permits, clean and inventory bear canisters, work on special projects, and assist with sales. Wilderness patrols include hiking trails, contacting visitors to provide information about bear defense tactics and regulations, rehabilitating campsites, responding to emergencies, working with restoration crews, inventorying wilderness and trail conditions and answering visitor questions. Wilderness patrols are one to three days in length and typically the intern will be teamed up with another ranger. The wilderness intern will need to have and maintain a high degree of physical fitness. On patrol hikes the individual may encounter a variety of conditions and weather. Conversely, when working at the wilderness center the selected candidate will be inside most of the day.

Qualifications:

- Good customer service skills
- Ability to work outdoors in varying weather
- Familiarity with PC based computers

Training Provided:

- Wilderness and Leave No Trace travel skills, radio use, bear awareness and hazing
- Wilderness ethics, history and regulations
- Park orientation and specific job duties
- Informal education delivery

National Park Service: Resources Management and Science - Vegetation and Ecological Restoration (Volunteer Program Lead Intern)

Purpose:

This position works within the division of Resources Management and Science (RMS) in the branch of Vegetation and Ecological Restoration (VER). The intern will work on a variety of vegetation management and ecological restoration related activities that help restore and maintain the ecological processes of Yosemite for present and future generations. Possible projects that the intern will contribute to include: the Mariposa Grove Restoration Project, Wetland restoration projects, Scenic Vista Management, Invasive plant removal projects, and data collection for the Yosemite's Outstanding Black Oaks. Group volunteer management constitutes a large part of this internship and the intern will both work with and lead groups of volunteers (2-20+ people) on a variety of ecological restoration projects.



Description of Duties:

The intern will be an integral part of a large team of other vegetation interns and park employees working towards the goal of protecting, preserving, and restoring every ecosystem type, from roadsides to mature giant sequoia groves. Everyday duties will vary and will include completing a variety of vegetation management tasks. Work will occur all over Yosemite and will require overnight travel, camping, and weekend work. Restoration activities include de-compacting soil with shovels, moving heavy materials with wheelbarrows, collecting and spreading soil and mulch, collecting and spreading seeds, planting, watering, and fencing. Invasive plant removal tasks involve using a handheld GPS unit or tablet to collect data, hand-pulling, and shovel shearing of plants to effectively control their spread. Finally, the selected individual may assist in data collection and management by collecting data in the field and entering data in MS Excel or Access.

Qualifications:

Required:

- Interest in managing and restoring Yosemite's vegetation communities and enthusiasm for engaging with Yosemite's diverse volunteers
- Must be able to work safely and efficiently both independently and as a part of a team
- Must be able to perform physically challenging work in an outdoor setting
- Must accept the challenge of monotonous work and be able to engage others in it as well
- Must be responsible for maintaining our shared volunteer tool cache, and must be a responsible and safe driver

Desired:

- People Management Skills, knowledge of or ability to utilize a GPS unit in the field, knowledge of data management with both MS Excel and MS Access

Training Provided:

- Identifying native and non-native plants in Yosemite's vegetation communities
- Invasive species removal
- Utilizing a GPS unit in the field
- Data management with both MS Excel and MS Access
- People management skills

National Park Service: Resources Management and Science - Vegetation and Ecological Restoration (Merced River Restoration Intern)

Purpose:

This intern works within the division of Resources Management and Science (RMS) in the branch of Vegetation and Ecological Restoration (VER). The intern will work on a variety of vegetation management, ecological restoration and outreach activities related to the restoration of the Wild and Scenic Merced River. The intern will help develop outreach and communication materials to share VER activities and accomplishments with the public and park staff.

Description of Duties:

The intern will be an integral part of a large team working towards protecting, preserving, and restoring meadows, wetlands, and riverbanks. Work will occur primarily in Yosemite Valley and may occasionally require overnight travel, camping, or weekend work. Restoration activities include de-compacting soil with shovels, moving heavy materials with wheelbarrows, collecting and spreading soil and mulch, collecting and spreading seeds, planting, watering, and fencing. The intern will develop and publish outreach materials on the park website and social media. The intern will assist in vegetation monitoring and data management by collecting data in the field and entering data into databases. The intern will assist other staff leading volunteer groups in restoration projects. Everyday duties will vary and flexibility with a dynamic landscape and shifting priorities is critical.

Qualifications

Required:

- Interest in managing and restoring Yosemite's vegetation communities
- Enthusiasm for engaging with Yosemite's diverse volunteers
- Able to work safely and efficiently both independently and as a part of a team
- Able to perform physically challenging work in an outdoor setting
- Both office work and field work are required with attention to detail
- Able to accept the challenge of monotonous work and be able to engage others in it as well
- Must be responsible for maintaining shared volunteer tool cache
- Must be a responsible and safe driver
- Teamwork and flexibility in a demanding work environment

Desired:

- Experience with creating printed or digital media (e.g. social media, video, articles, etc.)
- Experience in ecological restoration techniques
- Data collection on tablets or GPS units
- Data management with both MS Excel, MS Access and/or ArcGIS
- Experience working with volunteer groups

Training Provided:

- Identifying native and non-native plants
- Restoration techniques including use of tools and equipment
- Developing educational and outreach materials and working with the interpretive staff to make materials available to the public
- Collecting monitoring data in the field using tablets and GPS units
- Data management with software such as MS Excel, MS Access or ArcGIS
- Volunteer management skills

National Park Service: Education Office - Photography Intern

Purpose:

Education interns have the remarkable opportunity to explore, learn, and develop professional skills in the field of environmental education. Working alongside experienced Education Rangers, interns will be guided through the process of researching, developing and delivering environmental education programs for visiting school groups and youth programs, within Yosemite National Park. Much of the intern's time will be spent working closely with park partner youth photography programs including Parks in Focus and the Ansel Adams Gallery.

Description of Duties:

Interns will have the opportunity to explore a variety of subject matters including climate change, geology, wildlife, wilderness, ecology, and bears. Interns will have the opportunity to gain experience working in a variety of settings within Yosemite National Park as well as with diverse student audiences. Presenting information to groups of visiting students will be required and interns will be mentored in this skill prior to delivery of programs. At the completion of the internship, the student should have a comprehensive understanding of environmental education techniques and standards, as well as relevant professional experience.

This summer's Education Office internship will have a strong outdoor photography focus and the intern will provide support to Parks in Focus, an immersive 5-day photography camping program for middle school students hosted every summer in Yosemite National Park. The intern will support Parks in Focus in a variety of ways, including: assisting with trip logistics (e.g., meal preparation, organizing gear), helping lead environmental education activities, photography lessons, and games, and documenting activities and participants via photo and video. Additional photography duties would include working with Ansel Adams Gallery staff, as well as taking professional photos for intern presentations and YLPSI program advertisements.

This is an excellent internship for students interested in a career in education, interpretation, writing, photography, or other similar fields.

Qualifications:

Required:

- Strong communication skills required – both public speaking and informal interpersonal communication
- Experience and/or interest in photography and environmental education
- Ability to work well both independently and within a team
- Basic computer literacy e.g.: Microsoft Word and PowerPoint.
- Experience working with culturally and economically diverse people
- Must be a responsible and safe driver
- Ability to walk up to 3 miles per day

Desired:

- Love of the outdoors and the ability to spark that love in others
- Experience and/or interest in working with youth in outdoor and overnight settings
- Bilingual skills desired, as is experience working with culturally and economically diverse people

Training Provided:

- Education program development and delivery techniques; training in formal and informal interpretation
- Photography skills, including attending Parks in Focus training sessions
- Cross-training opportunities with other park divisions and park partners

National Park Service: Superintendent's Office - Safety

Purpose:

The Yosemite National Park Safety Office intern will assist Safety Office staff with daily operations pertaining to health, safety and environmental programs. The safety and health of employees, volunteers and the public are core National Park Service values and the Yosemite's Safety Office focuses on dispersing important information and training to park staff and visitors. This includes:

- Following established occupational safety and health procedures
- Developing and using Job Hazard Analyses
- Properly using and maintaining required clothing and/or personal protective equipment
- Maintaining a level of personal wellness and fitness
- Identifying and correcting unsafe conditions and work practices
- Reporting unsafe/unhealthful conditions and/or operations
- Reporting mishaps, including minor accidents and "near-misses"
- Establishing a safe working culture

The intern will have the unique opportunity to contact and work with a wide variety of park staff, including the Superintendent's Office.

Description of Duties:

Intern will conduct formal workplace inspections, develop and present Operational Leadership and other relevant safety trainings, maintain regulatory documentation, review and edit safety policy, assist with industrial hygiene, and perform respiratory fit-testing. There are opportunities for additional duties and trainings.

Qualifications:

- Volunteer must be willing to complete basic regulatory training in safety and health
- Public speaking and informal interpersonal communication
- Desire to provide quality customer service
- Ability to work well within a team
- Desire to work both outdoors and indoors
- Basic computer literacy

Training Provided:

- Various National Park Service safety and wellness trainings
- Customer service development via phone, email, and walk-in
- Writing and editing skills

National Park Service: Compliance Assistant

Purpose:

An internship with the Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch is intended for individuals interested in environmental protection and project planning. The intern will interact with various compliance specialists, project managers, resource experts, administrative assistants, and other park staff. The individual will gain an understanding of how projects are planned (e.g., who is consulted both internally and external to the park) to minimize environmental and operational impacts. This is an excellent opportunity for students interested in a career in environmental compliance, resource protection, design and engineering, public administration, or similar fields.

Description of Duties:

Under supervision of the compliance branch chief and guidance from other compliance specialists, the intern will support project planning through the following typical duties:

- Preparing and processing written correspondence to external park partners by reviewing and editing documents to provide clear and concise language
- Assisting in internal and public meeting logistical arrangement and material preparation
- Compiling information and writing technical compliance reports (e.g., annual reporting)
- Facilitating interdisciplinary review of written products/analyses
- Processing public comments on environmental analyses
- Researching and compiling information to inform the environmental compliance process

This position is mainly in an office setting with most tasks being completed on a computer. There may also be opportunities to assist with supporting park-wide programs addressing mentoring, orientation of new employees, or other developmental opportunities with management workgroups.

Qualifications:

- Strong desire to protect park natural and cultural resources and minimize impacts through coordinating with various subject matter experts
- Strong oral and written communication skills
- Familiarity with computers and software programs such as Microsoft Word
- Good attention to detail, particularly in editing and formatting written documents
- Can independently accomplish multiple tasks at a time
- Works well in a team of interdisciplinary subject matter experts with varying communication and management styles

Training Provided:

Technical skills learned include a basic understanding of federal environmental laws (e.g., National Environmental Policy Act, National Historic Preservation Act). Other skills developed include:

- Technical writing and editing skills
- Organizational skills for multitasking and working on complex issues
- Recordkeeping skills for documenting a decision
- Interpersonal skills and understanding of various behaviors and communication styles
- Facilitation skills for working with a group of people to accomplish a task

National Park Service: Business and Revenue Management - Fee Program Visitor Use Assistant

Purpose:

A Visitor Use Assistant is an incredibly rewarding job because they are the face of the National Park Service and Yosemite. For many visitors the ranger at the entrance gate or campground is the only ranger they will come in contact with their whole time in Yosemite. These connections they create with visitors can inspire and build support for the National Park Service and the park. We work with visitors from all over the United States and the rest of the world requiring us to overcome language barriers in creative ways. The intern will be responsible for collecting entrance fees at an Entrance station and campground which are used to support projects benefiting visitors throughout the park.

Description of Duties:

The intern will enthusiastically welcome thousands of visitors to Yosemite while operating a touch screen cash register to sell various types of entrance passes. They are expected to assess the visitor's travel plans to sell the pass best suited to their needs. On re-entry verify entrance receipts and various passes for valid dates. Complete shift reports to verify money collected and passes sold. The intern will learn how to prepare remittance reports and bank deposits for money collected. Constantly answer general park questions including hiking, camping, lodging, driving directions etc. Often questions are repetitive and recurring requiring patience on the part of the intern. In emergency situations remain calm and provide the most accurate information possible to those affected. Ability to think outside of the box to come up with more efficient ways to manage high volumes of visitors. All work is accomplished with the assistance of a team that works very closely together. Duties at park entrance stations are in a very fast paced dynamic environment. Shifts can vary from 7am to 10pm and can include working weekends and holidays.

Although many of the duties for the campground portion of this internship are similar to the entrance station, the campground portion represents a few differences in interaction pace as well as day-to-day duties. In the campgrounds, interaction with park visitors can, at times, be quick-paced while other situations may involve a slower process to disseminate important information. Duties include using and understanding the fine details of our online reservation system to assist visitors wishing to stay in the park. This process involves cash handling, credit card processing, as well as preparing shift reports. The intern will answer phone calls regarding changes to reservations, general park information, as well as unique situations relating to camping that arise from time to time. The intern will work with park rangers and volunteers to check-in campers. The check-in process involves educating visitors on food storage rules, fire rules, check-out time, and many other important aspects to ensure a safe and enjoyable trip for all park visitors. Overall, a campground internship will involve wearing multiple hats, so to speak, that require a deep understanding of the park and the various operations that help it run smoothly. Success in this position involves a knack for repetitive personal interaction, managing the stresses of a busy summer season, and staying inspired by the natural wonder and power of Yosemite.

Qualifications

Required

- Great customer service skills
- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to work well in a team setting and be a strong collaborator
- Ability to work outdoors in varied weather, particularly very high heat (100°+ possible)
- Basic computer literacy
- Higher level background and credit check to handle government funds

Desired

- Cash handling experience
- Bi-lingual skills are a plus
- Self-starter

Training Provided

- On the job including remits and deposits (skills required to move to the next grade level)
- Online course covering the history of the NPS
- Online course covering the basics of Interpretation
- Potentially CPR/ First Aid
- Potentially 30 minutes a week of Duolingo (language program) in French, Italian or Spanish

Project Ideas

- Critical review of our seasonal training program and recommendations for improvement
- Foreign language translations of our commonly used documents
- Learn the path that government fees take from collection through remit and deposit to the bank and ending with actual projects that are in various stages of completion throughout the park. Intern will gather information for the park website to explain to the public how their money is being spent.

Additional Information

Though working as a Visitor Use Assistant is not typically considered one of the “glamorous” jobs in Park Service it does have a career path with frequent permanent position openings at the GS5 level which other fields don’t have. Working at an entrance you are often recognized by employees throughout the park. This provides you with the opportunity to meet and connect with other staff during the summer, and helps to create a network that can potentially benefit your future career. Additionally, working in a campground provides opportunity to be outside and enjoy beautiful Yosemite while enhancing visitor’s experiences. You will make lasting friendships with rangers, hosts and visitors alike.

National Park Service: Facilities Management - Design & Engineering

Purpose:

An internship with the Design & Engineering Branch is intended for individuals interested in working on a variety of infrastructure project types. Typical projects include planning and designing for new construction, observing on-going construction, and responding to emergency operational issues. The intern will work with experienced professionals who can guide and provide feedback on their efforts. It is anticipated that the intern will interact with multiple project managers, front-line supervisors from other Facilities Management Branches, and other stakeholders as part of their efforts.

Description of Duties:

Under supervision and guidance from park engineering staff, the intern will learn about and assist with performing the following:

- Conduct field studies such as percolation tests to assist with planning and design efforts
- Assist with topographic surveys, including both field data collection and digital representation using AutoCAD Civil3D
- Prepare reports listing technical findings
- Prepare hydraulic models of water/sewer systems
- Complete drainage and stormwater analyses
- Design and drafting efforts using AutoCAD Civil3D
- Analyze existing infrastructure systems for deficiencies or needed improvements
- Inspect utility systems and construction projects within the park
- Perform facility assessments
- Create and revise work orders to assist with funding requests and tracking of internal costs

It is anticipated that efforts will include both office and field work. In addition, opportunities to work with different managers will provide opportunities to learn from staff with different backgrounds, on-going responsibilities, and management styles. Where possible, the duties will be tailored to the individual's technical interests, goals, and education.

Qualifications:

- Computer skills including the use of Microsoft Word and Excel
- Knowledge of AutoCAD and Civil3D
- Attention to detail
- Interpersonal skills
- Being able to work in an office setting with prolonged periods of sitting as well as an outdoor environment that may involve occasional exposure to harsh or severe environmental conditions
- Initiative in developing solutions to assigned work
- Positive attitude and a willingness to learn

Training Provided:

- AutoCAD & Civil 3D experience
- Topographic Surveying
- Construction Administration
- Field Observations
- Performing Engineering Calculations using various modeling programs and hands methods

National Park Service: Information Technology Assistant

Purpose:

This internship seeks to provide a student with practical information technology (IT) management skills necessary for an entry-level position with a governmental or private organization. The intern will be responsible for assisting users and IT staff with Operating System migration to Windows 10 and other Help Desk duties.

Description of Duties:

The intern will collect and organize information on various systems throughout the park and monitor progress of operating system migration. The intern may also conduct records management based upon the National Park Service records management policy. Daily contacts are made with employees at all levels, representatives from other park divisions and park management for the purposes of information exchange, project development and implementation, and project or program coordination. Other duties may be assigned as necessary, and as the intern expresses interest.

Qualifications:

- Computer skills (System administration experience preferable)
- Attention to detail
- Interpersonal skills and professional conduct
- Being able to work in an office setting with prolonged periods of sitting.
- Initiative is expected in developing processes and solutions to complete assigned work.

Training Provided:

- Customer Service development via phone, email, and walk-in support
- Managing Active Directory network environment
- Image computers with Windows 10
- Troubleshoot laptop encryption software
- Use helpdesk ticketing support within a team environment

National Park Service: Visitor and Resource Protection - Little Yosemite Valley Intern

Purpose:

As a Little Yosemite Valley (LYV) Back Country Ranger Intern, you will assist National Park Service Rangers with day to day operations in Little Yosemite Valley. You will work to protect park resources by assisting with backcountry management, including but not limited to, checking Half Dome hiking permits. You will also assist with wildlife management by monitoring bear activity and assisting visitors with proper food storage. In addition to backcountry management, you will work to protect the public. You will engage in Preventative Search and Rescue. This entails talking to hikers about their skill levels and known hazards in attempt to prevent mishaps. You will also respond to a variety of emergency incidents wherein you will report what you find, and then you will assist with the incident. Incidents often include Search and Rescue (SAR) operations and/or medical emergencies. This is a great opportunity for anyone considering a career with the NPS in Emergency Medicine, Search and Rescue, Wildlife or Park Management, or Public Lands. A good attitude, willingness to learn, willingness to work hard, and the ability to make good decisions are valued above all else for this position. Proven outdoor skills, EMT certification, and a high level of physical fitness are also desired for this position.

Description of Duties:

As an LYV intern, you will work an average of four days on, three days off. You will start and end your four-day tour of duty in Yosemite Valley, hiking into and out of Little Yosemite Valley on your first and last days. During an average tour of duty, you can be expected to hike approximately 30 miles. You will be expected to operate on your own, spending solo nights in the Ranger Camp, which is 5 miles from the trailhead. In a typical tour of duty, you will check Half Dome permits, assist with bear management, check for campground compliance, and participate in Search and Rescues, emergency medical response, and Preventative Search and Rescue.

Qualifications:

- Ability to hike long distances multiple days at a time
- Great customer service
- Desire to engage with and help visitors in a variety of cases
- Desire to live in remote areas

Training Provided:

- Training in Wilderness Use/Management
- Emergency Medical Response
- Technical Rope Rescue
- Swift Water Rescue
- Orienteering
- Search and Rescue Operations and Management
- Wildlife Management
- Helicopter Safety



National Park Non-Profit Partner: Yosemite Conservancy - Youth Art Programming

Purpose:

Yosemite Conservancy is offering a unique internship opportunity for a creative individual, to live in, learn about, and share the wonders of Yosemite National Park with visitors through hands on artistic experiences. This unique internship explores the creation of art as a valuable way to engage visitors in interpretive educational arts programs. You will work under the guidance of the Art and Nature Center Programs Manager.

This summer internship will primarily participate in the interpretive work of the Happy Isles Art and Nature Center, creating and delivering art programming for youth. This internship offers a glimpse in to the world of art education and requires the intern to create art curriculum with nature themes for ages 4-12. This internship also offers the opportunity to build facilitation and public speaking skills. The intern will familiarize themselves with Yosemite Valley and the range of interpretive information offered to park visitors, especially themes delivered in the Junior Ranger Programs at Happy Isles. The intern will also explore the range of programs offered by the Conservancy and will at all times serve as a representative of Yosemite Conservancy.

Description of Duties:

The duties may vary with respect to the program needs of the Art and Nature Center but will include: learning about the park; delivering art and educational programming and classes for children related to and conveying park interpretive themes; adding to the art center's youth programming resources (creating 2-3 new projects with curriculum outline); teaching up to 3 short classes per day; also assist with daily clean-up and maintenance of the Art and Nature Center and art supplies; assist with outreach and promotions as needed.

This internship will include time spent outdoors, creating and presenting art classes for children (ages 4 and up) and their families. The intern will work with the program manager and assistant program manager on content and/or programming creation for new art curriculum.

Qualifications:

- Strong communication skills
- Strong group facilitation skills or an interest in developing group facilitation skills
- Creative with an interest in arts, crafts, and design; skills in multimedia/photography an asset
- Ability to interact with park visitors with patience, kindness, and courtesy at all times
- Must enjoy sharing the joy and beauty of Yosemite's resources through the arts
- Understanding of child development and age appropriate activities for ages 4 and up
- Interest in education and developing high quality educational programs for youth

Training Provided:

- Learn a wide variety of art techniques from Art and Nature Center staff and professional art instructors
- Public speaking skills and techniques

National Park Service: Indian Cultural Demonstrator

Purpose:

The intern will perform duties to demonstrate the lifestyle of the Yosemite Indian people during the 1870-90s era within the Division of Interpretation and Education of Yosemite National Park. The purpose of contacts is to impart knowledge, understanding and respect of Indian traditional beliefs and lifestyles both past and present. This applies not only to park visitors but also other employees of the National Park Service in achieving an overall team effort in developing interpretive presentations.

Description of Duties:

The intern will demonstrate historically accurate and gender appropriate duties. A female intern will learn and present various stages of acorn production, sewing of aprons and garments typical of the time period demonstrated; cooking; crafting soap root brushes; basket production using techniques of the local area, coiling and twining; making of cordage and other various uses of native cultural materials. A male intern will learn and present the production of projectile points, foreshafted arrows, sinew-backed and non-sinew backed bows; manufacture of traps; feather work such as top knots; making of cordage for snares and nets etc.; production of other obsidian tools; quivers of animals skins and other various native cultural materials. As a demonstrator they will develop and present interpretive demonstrations, lectures, structured talks, impromptu talks, guide tours and other presentations about the Indian Cultural resources of the park to a variety of individuals and groups, using teaching methods and devices geared to the characteristics and interests of the audiences. The intern will wear time era appropriate clothing of local native people during demonstrations in the Indian Cultural Village and the Indian Cultural Museum (ICM), provide detailed information to visitors on the history of local Indian People from the pre-contact times to present day; involves visitors in various activities such as acorn preparation, game playing, cordage making, etc., provides demonstrations on non-gender specific life skills, and provides documentation of programs and program statistics.



Required Skills:

- Basic knowledge of history and local native people, of archaeological work done in the park and its implications, and of a traditional socio-political religious organization of local native people.
- A good knowledge of traditional life arts of local native people.
- Demonstrated skill in traditional techniques of food preparation, tool manufacturing, and native materials collection. Skills must be demonstrable without instruction.
- Communication skills in meeting and dealing with a wide variety of people in an effective and tactful manner and in speaking before sizable and variable audiences.
- Must be in good physical condition to gather and prepare materials.
- Must be able to sit for extended periods in the Indian Cultural Museum
- Be able to perform both in and out of doors and is subject to weather and lighting variance

Training Provided

- Gender appropriate duties of 1870s-90s era
- Develop and present on the Indian Cultural resources of the park

National Park Service: Interpretation

Purpose:

Field interpreters connect people to parks. They play a key role in ensuring that visitors have a meaningful, satisfying and safe park experience. These individuals help visitors decide how to spend their time in the park, and inform visitors about the wonders that await their discovery. Field interpreters are specially trained to engage the public so that each park visitor may find personal connections with the meanings and values found in the places and stories of that park. They help visitors explore the many dimensions of parks by introducing them to a variety of perspectives. By providing the opportunity for visitors to care about the places they visit, field interpreters promote stewardship and the opportunity for visitors to care for park resources. Through their interpretative and education programs, field interpreters encourage the development of a personal stewardship ethic, broadening public support for preserving and protecting park resources, so that they may be enjoyed by present and future generations.

Description of Duties:

Interns will develop and present a walk and/or talk in a park location such as the Wawona Campground or Yosemite Valley. The guided program (60 – 90 minutes) offered by the intern may be a junior ranger program or general visitor program. The topic may be about history, culture, or nature. These programs are researched and developed by the intern and generally reflect the interests of the intern. A major goal for interpreters providing these programs is to connect the visitor to the resource and create a sense of stewardship among these visitors. Interns will also provide informal interpretation and information/orientation to culturally diverse visitors encountered during visitor center desk and trail/public area roving duties. The job also involves orienting visitors to Yosemite National Park (and surrounding areas) and answering frequently asked questions. Interns will be expected to share up-to-date information on park features, facilities, and services to park visitors during informational contacts. Duties may vary slightly based on location.

Qualifications:

- Communication skills
- Public speaking and informal interpersonal communication
- Desire to work with the visiting public and provide quality customer service
- Interest in interpretation, education, and park preservation through the inspiration of others
- Ability to work well within a team; flexibility and collaboration a must!
- Desire to work both outdoors and indoors
- Basic computer literacy
- Experience working with culturally and economically diverse people
- Bi-lingual skills are a plus

Training Provided:

- Assisting the general public with enjoying their vacation while assisting the National Park Service in protecting Yosemite National Park
- Experience designing, developing, researching and presenting formal 15 min and hour long interpretive presentations to the general public
- Enhance public speaking skills by talking to 35 to 60 people
- Answering a variety of questions including many repetitive and routine and unique questions
- Provide quality customer service
- Working and assisting and harnessing of horses