



LPFA – Trail Crew Internship Job Description and Person Specification

About LPFA:

Founded in 1979, the LPFA is an official non-profit 501(c)(3) partner of the Los Padres National Forest. Our mission is to care for the Los Padres Forest, ensuring it thrives and remains safe and open for the people to use and enjoy. LPFA shares the Forest Service motto of “Caring for the Land and Serving the People.” With the help of our volunteers and professional trail crew, we dedicate thousands of hours each year to the restoration and maintenance of trails across the Los Padres National Forest.

Project Locations: Work can be across the Los Padres National Forest, but primarily within Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. Housing not provided.

Hours: Up to 40 hours/week, but may vary depending on weather. Work on weekends may be required.

Salary: Negotiable

Position Overview:

This is a perfect opportunity for those looking to gain experience in trail work, conservation, and stewardship of public lands. Hands-on training will be provided with additional opportunities to explore careers in public land management. We recognize that many potential applicants will not apply because they don't have outdoor experience. **We encourage folks to apply even if you are unsure of your qualifications. This program will focus on mentorship and provide a stepping stone for those looking for future careers in the outdoors.**

The Los Padres Forest Association Trail Crew Internship conducts trail work in and around the Los Padres National Forest. This crew of 4-5 camps out for 4 days at a time in remote, backcountry settings. A day on a project may involve hiking up to 15 miles, swinging tools, and taking in the aw-inspiring scenery of the Los Padres. We are proud to have a hardworking team dedicated to ensuring public access to the forest for years to come.

Tasks and Responsibilities:

Serves as a member of a trail maintenance team focused on maintaining, repairing and building trails throughout the Los Padres National Forest. Our trail restoration directly benefits recreational access to public lands for future generations.

- Maintain trail tread and corridors to trail standards, such as clearing blow downs, brushing trail corridors, and maintaining sustainable drainage structures
- Attend and assists in facilitating trail-gate safety meetings.
- Use personal protective equipment (PPE) and use proper safety procedures while performing trail construction and maintenance work.
- Use and maintain a variety of tools such as single and double jacks, Pulaski, McLeod, rock bars, hand saws, axe, picks, shovel, chainsaw, crosscut, etc.
- Builds trails with associated materials, restores impacted areas, and replaces signage as needed.
- Prepares materials needed for each job, ensures proper tool maintenance, and reports work completed.
- Plans and implements the logistics of projects associated with trail maintenance projects. May perform trail condition surveys.

- Explains regulations concerning trail maintenance specific to the Wilderness Act. Inspects assigned areas to determine compliance with regulations or specifications.
- May interact with forest visitors and when assigned, educates visitors covering trail maintenance and cleanup.
- Work alongside and assist LPFA volunteers in a safe and respectful manner.
- Backpack/ camp in remote locations for many days at a time.

Working Conditions: Heavy physical effort is required in bending, lifting, applying leverage, and reaching. Frequently lifts and carries objects weighing up to 100 pounds. Must hike long distances (up to 15 miles in a day) on backcountry trails, which traverse steep terrain.

Qualifications:

- 18-25
- Valid license and personal transportation preferred
- Local to the Santa Barbara, Ventura or Santa Maria commuting area

Contact: Please email INFO@LPforest.org with questions or to apply for this position.