



Office: Vernal Field Office

Notice of Funding Opportunity Number: L23AS00247

Project Submission Dates and Times: February 10, 2023 – April 11, 2023, by 5:00pm ET

Project Title: Vernal Field Office (VFO)- Recreation Youth Opportunity

Maximum Available Funding in FY23: \$55,000

BLM has determined \$600 weekly stipend equal to \$15.00 per hour (to include Fringe and benefits) is reasonable.

Project Background Information: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administers approximately 248 million acres of public lands, primarily in the western United States and Alaska. The VFO administers approximately 1.7 million acres. The project will provide college students, recent college graduates or recent high school graduates an opportunity to gain work experience with public land and natural-resource management by helping to implement recreation and cultural oriented projects

Project Objective: BLM VFO, Utah has an opportunity to introduce youth to careers in the BLM under the recreation and cultural programs. The recreation and cultural program in the VFO would like to provide work experience to youth for their career and educational benefit. This will be accomplished by providing them opportunities to gain hands on experience in trail maintenance, recreation site maintenance, sign installation, cultural site preservation, and cultural site maintenance and documentation. They will have opportunities to learn about public lands management, natural resource management, recreation facility development and further their understanding and appreciation of recreation and cultural careers. From this they will gain an increased appreciation and understanding of our public lands, of the value of public service, and are likely to become life-long advocates for those values. This project would be especially appropriate for students studying recreation management or related fields and will provide opportunities to learn site development skills such as design, layout, and construction.

Work Schedule: Crews may develop their own work schedule as needed to improve efficiency, but generally would be 10 hours per day over the course of 8-day work periods for a total of 8 work periods. Flexible start date in May 2024

Qualification Requirements: This opportunity is suitable for conservation corps crews that have a focus on trail work and other related field work. This opportunity will require time outdoors and field work that is often under rigorous physical conditions. Crews would need to understand the principles of sustainable trail construction and be able to provide the needed equipment for trail construction of hand-built trails.

Housing: Agency cannot provide housing. Crew would be expected to camp near the project location, BLM staff will provide recommendations for appropriate locations to camp. On a case-by-case situation if weather is extreme crews may be housed in a hotel for the period of extreme weather.

Vehicle Needs: Vehicles will need to be provided by the recipient to support youth crews. Vehicles (preferably pickup truck) with four-wheel drive will be necessary to complete project work throughout the VFO.

Other Project Considerations: Recipient will be required to provide food, tents, camping equipment, and other logistical necessities to the youth crew to camp for extended periods of time (8 day work periods).

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Recipient will be required to supply tools including, but not limited to chainsaws, backpack sprayers (herbicide application), hand tools (e.g., shovels, pick mattocks), and GPS units.

Training Requirements: Youth Corps is required to provide their own chainsaw training, first aid, crew leader training and pesticide applicators license. BLM may assist with training or specialized construction training as needed or required.

Travel: The only travel that would be required for this agreement is from the Conservation Corps Headquarters to VFO for each work period. Then from the crew camp to the work sites each day.

Duties: The successful applicant will provide two five person crews to assist the VFO with the maintenance of trails, campgrounds, recreation facilities, and cultural sites. Crews will be able to work independently of each other. Projects will be in Duchesne County, Uintah County, and Daggett County Utah over the life of the agreement. The location of the project will depend on the BLMs priority projects and sites each year.

Project expected outcomes: It is expected that the applicant will complete maintenance on 20 campsites, install 10-20 recreational site signs, conduct maintenance on one trailhead and one rec site, complete trail maintenance on one to five miles of trail, and assist with restoration/ preservation efforts at one cultural site as time and funding allow annually.

BLM's Involvement: There will be substantive BLM programmatic involvement by BLM professionals that will identify project work and expectations for successful completion of project work. BLM will have the right to intervene by modifying the project management plan, if a project is not staying on schedule, technical issues arise, etc. In addition, BLM and applicant will meet periodically to discuss progress and track project outcomes; review any training needs; and decide what direction to take in finalizing a project or move to the next phase.

BLM Program Contact:

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Applicants are encouraged to refer to the full program announcement number L23AS00247 posted on Grants.gov for all program requirements and applicable terms and conditions. Recipients selected for awards will be required to adhere to those requirements should an award be made.