



Position Announcement: Natural Resource Social Science Internship

Applications Due: Monday, April 25, 2016

The [Sierra Institute for Community and Environment](#) is looking for a motivated individual to fill the six month position of a Natural Resources Social Science Intern. The intern will support the organization's social science work, which occurs within context of natural resource management and rural development at the local, regional, and state-wide levels. This person will work at the intersection of community and natural resources on triple bottom line restoration, collaboration, land management policy, the woody-renewables industry, drought and catastrophic wildfire issues, capacity building, and socioeconomic monitoring. The position will require travel to rural communities throughout the state to conduct related work and research. The duration of the position is six months, with the possibility of a transition into a full-time job. The position begins May or June, 2016.

Intern will be involved in the following projects:

Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI): 25%

The RCDI program builds the capacity of nine organizations based in rural, economically disadvantaged communities striving to develop sustainable wood utilization projects. Intern will learn about these initiatives as he/she conducts wood industry-related research and/or literature reviews, takes notes during meetings/calls, supports workshop coordination, and performs other duties as assigned.

Sierra Cascades All-Lands Enhancement (SCALE): 25%

SCALE is the mechanism for collaboration between seven USFS Collaborative Forestry initiatives in California. All seven groups are united in their purpose to advance landscape scale, often times multijurisdictional, forest restoration while improving local socioeconomic conditions. SCALE identifies and addresses shared barriers to success among these seven groups. Intern duties related to this project will include forest and watershed management research, collaborative forestry policy analysis, interview assistance, and meeting coordination support.

Other Social Science Programmatic Support: 50%

Sierra Institute administers a variety of other social science programs, including the socioeconomic monitoring of rural communities and the facilitation of collaborative forestry restoration groups. This work includes socioeconomic monitoring, facilitating natural resource-focused collaboratives, etc. The selected applicant will have the opportunity to learn about these initiatives by participating and assisting in their development.

Qualifications

Required

- An undergraduate or advanced degree in the social sciences, natural resources or related field;

- Excellent written and oral communication skills;
- Experience with qualitative, socioeconomic research;
- Understanding of land management policies, and issues such as wildfire and forestry;
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office (Word, PowerPoint, Excel);
- A willingness to work and live in a mountainous area that historically receives snow and ice in winter months;
- A team-oriented perspective with a productive level of self-guidance and initiative;
- An ability to bring critical thinking skills, creativity, and laughter to the work place;
- Experience living and/or working in a rural setting or familiarity with rural issues.

Preferred

- Proficiency with Adobe Creative Suite or other graphic design software;
- Experience with event coordination, online surveys, webinars, website management, and/or utilizing other computer software programs;
- Experience using ArcGIS.

More Details

About the Sierra Institute

The Sierra Institute promotes healthy forests, watersheds, and communities by investing in the well-being of rural communities and strengthening their participation in natural resource management. Our work is grounded by the concept of triple bottom line values, as in supporting initiatives that simultaneously benefit the environment, economy, and equity within a given landscape.

Location

Sierra Institute is located in Taylorsville, CA, and lies within an area referred to as “Indian Valley.” Taylorsville has a population of approximately 145. Indian Valley offers uniquely, rural, community events and is surrounded by many outdoor recreation opportunities such as hiking, biking, and climbing within its surrounding public lands including Plumas National Forest, Lassen National Forest, Lassen Volcanic National Park.

Compensation

The intern will receive a stipend of \$1,000/month as well as housing within walking distance of the Sierra Institute office. The internship will be six months in duration.

How to Apply

Please send your resume, coverletter, and the contact information for three references as **one pdf** to jobs@sierrainstitute.us with “Natural Resource Social Science Internship” in the subject line. Please include where you heard about the job in the text of the email (please be as specific as possible). Applications due **Monday, April 25, 2016**. Please call 530.284.1022 if you have any questions.