



Land Steward Summer Internship - Columbia Land Trust

Help preserve vital lands while learning about Land Trust conservation practices, restoration techniques, and Pacific Northwest ecology.

Position Description:

The Land Steward Intern will support land management activities on Columbia Land Trust conserved lands located throughout northwest Oregon, the Columbia River Gorge, and southwest Washington. The intern will support the monitoring of fee-owned lands and conservation easements. Monitoring field work will involve traversing properties by foot to take photos and make observations about vegetation, wildlife, hydrology, boundaries, and other site conditions. The intern will be responsible for developing monitoring reports that include written observations, maps, and photos. In addition to monitoring activities, the Land Steward Intern will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of land management activities such as mapping, infrastructure maintenance, weed control, and ecological surveys. The position will provide training and exposure to environmental field work, land management practices, ecological restoration practices, and land conservation methods and issues.

Timeline:

June – mid-August (flexible start and end date)

An average of 30 hours per week, 20-40 hours per week depending on availability and duties

Position requires a commitment of at least 10 weeks

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Conduct field monitoring visits with staff or volunteers to conservation easements and fee-owned properties (the Land Trust monitors both urban and rural properties ranging from 1-300 acres in size) (30%)
- Generate monitoring reports: includes compiling monitoring photos and data, entering monitoring notes into an online database, and filing reports (40%)
- Preparation of monitoring materials (maps and documents) in advance of field visit (10%)
- Support land management projects that may include mapping, infrastructure maintenance, weed control, ecological surveys or other management activities. These activities will generally occur in the field with staff but may also include preparation and data processing in the office (20%)
- Office work may include data management, mapping and analysis using GIS software, based on the intern's skills and interests (up to 10%)

Desired Skills and Qualifications:

- Background in natural resource management or natural sciences
- Interest in working outdoors and a commitment to conservation
- Field experience in land conservation or environmental stewardship
- Ability to work in remote, often rugged, and adverse conditions
- Basic knowledge of PNW flora and fauna, invasive plant species, and water quality issues
- Familiarity with GPS and GIS technology
- Ability to use a compass, map, and hand tools
- Strong communication, teamwork, and leadership skills
- Ability to work independently in the field and office
- Attention to detail and tolerance for data focused tasks
- Valid Driver's License and good driving record

Work Environment: Roughly 50% time spent in the office and 50% in the field

Supervision: The intern will be supervised by the Volunteer Coordinator with additional supervision and training provided by Stewardship Staff. Staff will provide training throughout the internship, establish goals and timelines, and provide on-going feedback.

Considerations:

The intern will work out of Columbia Land Trust's office in Vancouver, WA. Reliable daily transportation to Vancouver is required. In addition, this position may occasionally require the use of a personal vehicle to drive to distant properties (up to 150 miles round trip). The intern is responsible for supplying their own basic field gear (field clothes, rain gear, boots, backpack, etc.) . Mileage expenses incurred for this additional travel are reimbursable.

Compensation: Unpaid internship. Educational Credit supported.

Application Instructions:

Send a cover letter and resume to Sam Schongalla, Columbia Land Trust Volunteer Coordinator, at volunteer@columbialandtrust.org, 360-213-1214.

Deadline to Apply is May 10, 2015.

About Columbia Land Trust: Since 1990, Columbia Land Trust has protected, in perpetuity, approximately 24,000 acres of lands along the lower 250 miles of the Columbia River. A majority of the protection has been accomplished with land ownership, with significant holdings as conservation easements or other conservation agreements, as well as transfer of land to public agencies. The Land Trust's service region includes 13 Oregon and Washington counties, extending from the Pacific Ocean on the west to beyond the eastern edge of the Columbia Gorge Scenic Area, near the John Day River. The Land Trust has approximately 1,750 members in Oregon and Washington and has embarked on an ambitious plan to expand public awareness and participation in the conservation of the great lands of the Columbia River

region. Columbia Land Trust's headquarters are located on the campus of beautiful Fort Vancouver, WA. More information about Columbia Land Trust can be found at www.columbialandtrust.org