



American Conservation Experience:
BLM Utah Wilderness GIS & Database Fellowship

Summary: American Conservation Experience (ACE), a Non-Profit Conservation Corps based in Flagstaff, Arizona, in partnership with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Utah State Office, is seeking one full-time Wilderness Fellow. The Fellow will serve for one year developing a comprehensive geospatial database to store BLM Utah's statewide wilderness monitoring and inventory data.

While this position involves working with wilderness issues, it is primarily a GIS and data management project. This opportunity is intended for an enthusiastic young professional with a well-developed working background in GIS, computer science, conservation, environmental law and/or policy, wilderness management, or similar field. The Wilderness Fellow should possess a passion for public land management and a professional interest in advancing their career towards natural resource management, policy, GIS, and/or wilderness.

Start Date: December 2012 (start date may be flexible for the right candidate)

End Date: 52 weeks from start date

A 12-month commitment is required

Location: The position is stationed at the BLM Utah State Office in downtown Salt Lake City, Utah

Project Partner Websites: For more information regarding BLM Utah Wilderness Program visit: www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/prog/blm_special_areas/utah_wilderness.html and www.utah.com/playgrounds/wilderness_study.htm

Compensation: \$12/hour. There is potential for a raise to \$15/hour after 6 months depending on performance. Housing is not provided. Some assistance is available to provide local knowledge about finding adequate housing in Salt Lake City.

Position Description: This ACE Fellowship is multi-faceted, adaptable, and geared at enhancing an existing comprehensive geospatial database to make the wilderness research and data collection process more effective and efficient for the staff, and provide greater transparency for the public. The Fellow will primarily be

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engaged in continuing existing efforts to develop the Access database for all wilderness data and assisting BLM to create a database interface to incorporate corresponding GIS data. Additional duties will include creating and organizing the photo components to the database, scanning and organizing topographic maps related to the inventories, and refining the database structure. The opportunity to gain on-the-ground experience working in the field alongside BLM staff may also arise during the course of the internship, but cannot be guaranteed.

Project Background and Objectives: BLM-administered public lands designated as Wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas are major components of the BLM's National Landscape Conservation System. The National Landscape Conservation System encompasses numerous types of public lands that have been designated by the Congress or the President to conserve, protect, and restore nationally significant landscapes recognized for their outstanding cultural, ecological, and scientific values. BLM began inventorying public lands for wilderness characteristics throughout the state of Utah in the 1970s at the direction of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and these inventories have continued to ensure that wilderness values are adequately considered as part of the BLM's multiple-use mission. Wilderness management is a controversial topic in Utah and there is a tremendous need to create a central repository for accurate wilderness data that can be easily accessed by local, state, and national BLM professionals.

The Fellow will support the BLM's mission by enthusiastically fulfilling the following responsibilities:

- Continue to update and enhance the existing databases of all wilderness inventories completed by the BLM in Utah;
- Provide sound information to BLM in an effort to create an interface between the database and ArcGIS;
- Conduct research and gather information to be used in data compilation;
- Work closely with the National Land Conservation System staff in the execution of all tasks; and
- Complete other duties as assigned within the scope of their expertise.

Training Provided: A majority of the training made available to the Fellow will be done on the job by working alongside seasoned BLM staff. The project will present an opportunity for young professionals, including recent graduates, to gain tangible skills in wilderness management, a large ArcGIS program, as well as gaining a national perspective of public land conservation efforts. ACE and the BLM are committed to providing the most educational, rewarding, and challenging experience possible to best prepare interns for future careers in the stewardship of America's public lands.

Qualifications: Applicants for ACE's Wilderness Fellow should be resourceful individuals with education and experience working with all ESRI software, including ArcGIS database software. Knowledge of other computer software used to create databases and spreadsheets is also critical. The ACE Wilderness Fellow must be willing and able to represent ACE and the BLM in a professional, positive, and enthusiastic manner.

Drug users should not consider applying, as ACE reserves the right to require drug testing.

Requirements:

- Fellowship is available to US Citizens and Green Card holders only.
- Fellows must be 25 years old or younger, or be 26-29 and have recently completed a Masters degree in a relevant field of study.
- Strong computer skills, particularly with a solid understanding of database structure and development. Training to enhance specific database skills will be provided, if necessary.
- Must be able to communicate clearly and concisely with BLM resource professionals
- Must have strong oral and written communication skills.
- Must have a valid driver's license and a clean driving record
- A personal vehicle required for the duration of the Fellowship.
- Interns must have personal medical insurance for the duration of their participation with ACE.
- Interest in public land management, and specifically, public lands that have been designated for conservation.
- Must commit to a standard workweek schedule in a sedentary office environment.
- Must be able to take initiative and work independently, as well as participate effectively in collaborative efforts.
- English proficiency is imperative.
- The selected candidate is required to pass a federal criminal background check prior to beginning employment.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Effective communication skills with diverse audiences.
- Ability to work alone or in a group.
- Graduate degree in GIS, Wilderness Management, Natural Resource Management, Environmental Policy, Recreation, Environmental Law & Policy, Computer Science, or other related fields.
- ArcGIS certification and/or knowledge of the capabilities of ArcGIS. An understanding how ArcGIS interfaces with other databases is strongly desired.
- Some background and knowledge in a programming language and scripting experience writing Macros (such as the use of Visual Basic).
- Knowledge and skills in using database software.
- A strong demonstrated interest and/or education in wilderness and the field of natural resources.
- Excellent writing, research, and organizational skills.
- Knowledge of Utah's public lands and/or the history of wilderness management are strongly desired.

To Apply:

Please email a resume and cover letter along with 3 professional references (contact information only) in **ONE** to intern@usaconservation.org with "BLM UT WILD GIS-FWS Referred" in the subject heading of your email. Early consideration will be given as resumes are received. If you have any questions regarding this position please feel free to call Shane Barrow at 801-946-2722.