

Position Description

1700 Hour AmeriCorps Member

Chief Plenty Coups State Park

Pryor, Montana



Term of service: January 15, 2018 – November 16, 2018

Service schedule: Member will serve a minimum of 1,715 hours over a 44 week term, averaging 41 hours per week with 80 hours of “Time Not Scheduled to Serve” to be used as sick, vacation, or other personal leave.

Position Summary:

This position is based in one of the most history rich sites for Native American culture and community in all of Montana. Chief Plenty Coups State Park is a historical and cultural park with unique features that include an interpretive visitor center with a collections room and artifacts, Chief Plenty Coups’ original log cabin home, a sacred medicine spring, and the Chief Plenty Coups family gravesite. The Park is located on Chief Plenty Coups’ original allotment was left to the public to tell the story of Crow Tribe transitioning from a nomadic to reservation lifestyle, and it is encircled by the Crow Indian reservation.

This AmeriCorps member will work with the park ranger to build a strong interpretative program for grades K-12. They will work with the local schools and teachers to build cultural programs to be hosted onsite and offsite. The AmeriCorps member will also be responsible for updating the Park’s presence on the internet involving animal species sightings in the Park and creating naturalist based curriculum.

Chief Plenty Coups State park totals 195 acres and 40 acres are developed. The AmeriCorps member will help with projects that will create access to the undeveloped land. This individual will be responsible for identifying noxious weeds in the park and assisting to create and implement a noxious weed management plan.

The AmeriCorps member will also create a volunteer program through working with the local communities to establish a strong foundation of volunteers for the park. The AmeriCorps member will help coordinate and support the annual State Park Special Event Series. This individual will contribute to these events through a variety of tasks, from marketing to community organizing. With the availability of an onsite trailer for housing, the AmeriCorps member will have ready opportunity to integrate themselves into the local community.

Montana State Parks AmeriCorps members perform capacity building activities. Their service revolves around the program goals listed below in order to ensure that they do not displace workers or take part in any prohibited or unallowable activities as outlined in AmeriCorps regulations. Montana State Parks AmeriCorps members *will* likely participate in activities that involve recurring contact with vulnerable populations.



Member will contribute to the following program goals:

- Improve park land
- Expand educational and interpretive programs
- Increase volunteer capacity*
- Enhance outreach and awareness of state parks
- Participate in service activities including National Days of Service**
- Respond to disasters, when called upon to do so by the program

Specific Position Responsibilities:

- Improve park land
 - Develop a National Public Lands Day Event
 - Help coordinate and implement Park's construction projects
 - Create and implement noxious weed management plan with the Ranger to combat the spread of noxious weeds within the park
- Expand educational and interpretive programs
 - Develop educational and interpretive programs including history and biology of park for elementary, middle school, and high school children. This could include making implements and pieces for traditional games and/or processing buffalo hides for construction of educational pieces.
 - Responsible for updating the Park's internet presence on travel sites, animal watch lists and plant watch lists
- Increase volunteer capacity
 - Develop a volunteer program that includes recruitment, retention, and recognition of volunteers
- Enhance outreach and awareness of state parks
 - Coordinate special events, including our annual Chief Plenty Coups' Day of Honor event
 - Help with the marketing of the park, special events, and interpretive and educational programs

Minimum Requirements:

- Over 18 with a high school diploma or GED; college degree or equivalent work experience preferred
- A United States citizen, United States National, or legal permanent resident alien
- Demonstrated leadership skills
- Ability to take initiative, handle multiple projects, track details essential to project completion, analyze information, and meet deadlines
- Strong ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing with diverse groups of people
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Basic computer proficiency

- Passion for the outdoors and enthusiasm for enhancing Montana's state parks
- A driver's license and personal means of transportation within the state of Montana
- Must pass the requirements of the National Service Criminal History Check

Benefits:

- Living allowance of \$12,628 over 44 week term of service
- On-site travel trailer available for housing
- An AmeriCorps Education Award of \$5,815 upon successful completion of service. This award can be used to pay education costs at qualified institutions of higher education, for educational training and resources, or to repay qualified student loans. Members aged 55 and over may transfer the education award to a child, grandchild or foster child.
- Eligible for deferment on qualified student loans
- Guaranteed health benefits and child care assistance if qualified
- Experience and training working in the fields of outdoor recreation, parks management, interpretive services, education, community outreach, and volunteer management
- Opportunity to live, work and be part of the team amid the natural wonders and cultural heritage of Montana State Parks

To Apply:

Montana State Parks AmeriCorps only accepts applications through the my.americorps.gov portal. To apply, you can follow the link [HERE](#) to our application within my.americorps.gov. Please note, there is only one application for all of our 1700 hour positions, placement preference will be assessed during the interview process.

* Volunteer activity facilitated by AmeriCorps members supports the management and operation of State Parks. These activities do not include any prohibited or unallowable activities as outlined in AmeriCorps regulations.

**Service activities will center around the preceding program goals as well as provide unique opportunities for members to engage in service to non-profit community organizations that provide support to those in need, including victims of national disasters, individuals and families in poverty, veterans, homeless animals, and other groups. Service projects will take place on and around designated National Days of Service as well as other AmeriCorps organized events, such as member trainings. Service activities will not include any prohibited or unallowable activities as outlined in AmeriCorps regulations.

The Montana State Parks AmeriCorps Program, as administered by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, shall provide equal access to opportunities provided by the Program and shall not discriminate against any person because of race, creed, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Minority candidates are encouraged to apply. Reasonable accommodations will be provided for qualified individuals with known disabilities unless doing so would result in an undue hardship. The accommodation must be essential for the Member to perform his/her service successfully. Funds for reasonable accommodations are available for use by members with disabilities who have been offered a position with an AmeriCorps Program and require an accommodation to fulfill the essential functions of their service.