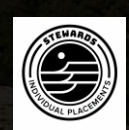




GEOLOGICAL SCIENTISTS IN FORESTS PROGRAM

Applicant Information Webinar

JANUARY 8, 2025



GSF TEAM



FS Lands, Minerals, & Geology

Program strategy and
planning
Site selection
Educational opportunities/
resources
Allocating Funding



Programmatic Lead

Position
development/recruitment
Member/Site
onboarding/orientation
Administrative partner
Member/site support



FS Unit Mentor

Candidate review,
interview, selection
On-site orientation and
training
Day-to-day
supervision/mentorship
End of term evaluations



Recruitment Support

Position outreach
Network engagement



INTRODUCTION

- Geoscientists in Forests (GSF) is a new Forest Service (FS) program.
- Partnership between WO Lands, Minerals, & Geology with Conservation Legacy and the Geological Society of America.
- Specializes in AmeriCorps service opportunities that address geoscience-related needs and management priorities.
- Designed for individuals aged 18-30 and veterans up to age 35.



PROGRAM GOALS

- Provide on-the-ground geoscience training and experience for the next generation of FS geoscience stewards;
- Promote an immersive, paid developmental experience for emerging geoscience professionals through FS mentorship;
- Address critical geoscience needs on NFS lands; and
- Promote career exploration and professional development for recent graduates and underrepresented populations.





PROGRAM BENEFITS

- **Compensation (\$700/week)**
- **Technical Assistance to Units:** participants provide knowledge, experience, and innovative solutions to complete mission-critical projects.
- **Professional Development:** participants develop professional skills under the mentorship of FS staff.
- **Noncompetitive Hiring Eligibility:** participants have the ability to earn a 2-year Public Lands (PLC) Noncompetitive hiring certificate.
- **AmeriCorps Education Award**
- **Time-Off (personal leave, holiday, sick) –** Varies by position length





PARTICIPANTS ELIGIBILITY

- U.S. Citizens or Legal Permanent Residents (Green Card Holders).
- At least 18 years old, and to be eligible for PLC certificate, must start project while age 30 or under, or if a military veteran, age 35 or under.
- Able to pass a federal background and employment background check.
- Possess a valid driver's license and a good driving record (if the GSF needs to drive a government vehicle during their position).
- Each position includes preferred qualifications relevant to the specific project scope.

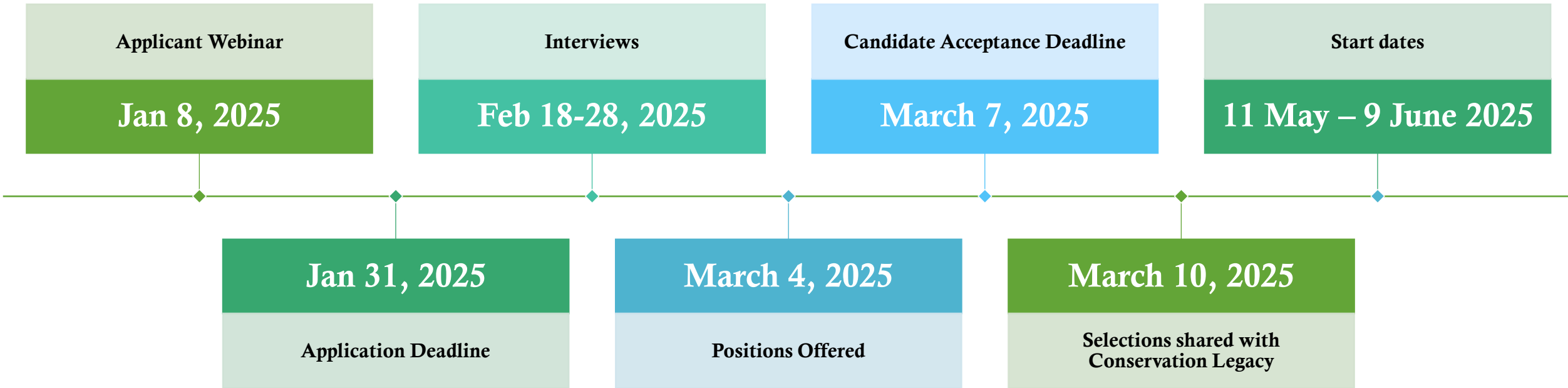


DIVERSITY GOALS

- The GSF aims to encourage career exploration and professional growth for recent graduates and underrepresented groups.
- Executive Order 14035 “the Federal Government must strengthen its ability to **recruit, hire, develop, promote, and retain** our Nation’s talent and remove barriers to equal opportunity. It must also **provide resources and opportunities to strengthen and advance diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility** across the Federal Government.”
- Stewards is available to support applications.



APPLICANT TIMELINE



2025 PROJECTS

Geology

Field Geology Assistant

Custer Gallatin National Forest

Geologist/Physical Science Assistant

Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest

Geologic Inventory Assistant

Huron-Manistee National Forests

Geoscience Education & Interpretation

Interpretive Assistant

Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands

Geology Interpretive Assistant

Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument

Geotechnical & Geohazards

Geotechnical Engineering Assistant

Willamette National Forest

Slope Stability and Stream Survey Assistant

Umpqua National Forest

Hydrogeology

Watershed and Geology Program Assistant

George Washington & Jefferson National Forests

Hydrology Technical Assistant

Tongass National Forest

Cave & Karst

Karst and Cryosphere Inventory Assistant

Bridger-Teton National Forest

Karst and Bedrock Conservation Plan Assistant

Hiawatha National Forest

Cave Interpretive Assistant

Tongass National Forest

HOW TO APPLY

[HTTPS://STEWARDSLEGACY.ORG/GEOSCIENTISTS-IN-FORESTS](https://stewardslegacy.org/geoscientists-in-forests)

The USDA Forest Service Lands, Minerals and Geology (LMG) office in partnership with the Conservation Legacy and the Geological Society of America (GSA) is pleased to announce the Geoscientists in Forests (GSF) Program offering paid workforce development opportunities to emerging geoscientists that leverage Agency capacity to conduct geologic work.

2025 Geoscientists in Forests Openings

INTERESTED? To learn more, join our GSF Information Webinar on Wednesday, January 8th at 10AM MT. Register Here: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

APPLICATION NOTES:

Positions will close after 75 applications are received. Applicants may apply for up to five open positions.

POSITION TITLE	FOREST SERVICE UNIT	LOCATION	LENGTH OF SERVICE	HOUSING PROVIDED	LINK TO APPLY
Field Geology Assistant	Custer Gallatin National Forest, Sioux Ranger District	Camp Crook, SD	12 Weeks	Yes	Apply Here
Geology Interpretive Assistant	Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument	Toutle, WA	26 Weeks	Yes	Apply Here
Karst and Cryosphere Inventory Assistant	Bridger-Teton National Forest	Pinedale, WY	12 Weeks	Yes	Apply Here
Geologic Inventory Assistant	Huron-Manistee National Forests	Wellston, MI	12 Weeks	Yes	Apply Here
Field Verification and Inventory Assistant	Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Supervisor's Office	Everett, WA	16 Weeks	No	TBD
Geotechnical Engineering Assistant	Willamette National Forest, Supervisor's Office	Springfield, OR	12 Weeks	Maybe	Apply Here
Interpretive Assistant	Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands, Wall Ranger District, National Grasslands Visitor Center	Wall, SD	16 Weeks	Yes	Apply Here



CRAFTING A STRONG APPLICATION

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- **Tailor Your Application:**
 - Highlight skills and experiences that align with program.
 - Address how you meet or exceed requirements.
- **Be Thorough and Clear:**
 - Double-check that all sections are complete.
 - Proofread for spelling and grammar errors.
- **Showcase Your Passion:**
 - Use your application questionnaire to share your enthusiasm for the program and its impact on your goals.

Use specific examples to demonstrate your achievements and contributions:

Situation

Task

Action

Result



HIGHLIGHTING YOUR UNIQUE STRENGTHS

STAND OUT IN YOUR APPLICATION

- **Emphasize Your Unique Value:**
 - What sets you apart? Reflect on unique experiences, skills, or perspectives.
 - Tie your strengths directly to the program's goals.
- **Quantify Your Achievements:**
 - Use data or specific examples to showcase impact (e.g., "Increased efficiency by 20%" or "Led a team of five on a successful project").
- **Show Alignment:**
 - Demonstrate how your goals align with the program's mission or values.

Use action verbs and concise language in your application to convey confidence and professionalism:

Investigated

Developed

Synthesized

Validated

Modeled



COMMON MISTAKES AND FINAL ADVICE

AVOID THE COMMON PITFALLS

- **Avoiding Pitfalls:**

- Missing the deadline – submit early to account for technical issues.
- Providing generic or incomplete answers.
- Overlooking the character limits or other requirements for short answer questions.

- **Final Advice:**

- Seek feedback from a mentor or colleague on any part of the application where you think extra eyes could help you.
- Use the resources provided by the program for clarification.

Your application is your story—tell it with confidence and care!

Don't undervalue the possible sources of your knowledge and experience (i.e., volunteering, clubs, etc.)





BASICS OF CREATING A RESUME

Choose the Right Format

- Chronological: Focus on work history
- Functional: Highlight skills
- Combination: Mix of both

Key Sections

- Header: Name, contact info, LinkedIn/portfolio (optional)
- Summary/Objective: Brief overview of skills or career goals
- Skills: Relevant technical and soft skills

- Experience: List jobs (most recent first) with accomplishments
- Education: Degree, school, and certifications

Customization

- Tailor your resume to match the job description

Professional Look

- Simple fonts, 1 page (2 max), no excessive graphics

Proofread

- Check for grammar, spelling, and formatting errors.



WHAT ELSE DO YOU BRING TO THE TABLE?

- Hobbies
- Volunteer experience
- Public speaking
- Diving/SCUBA certified
- Wilderness first aid
- CPR
- Climbing
- Amateur astronomer
- Backpacking experience
- Off road driving/ATV
- Wilderness experience
- Multilingual



CREATE A LINKEDIN PROFILE

- Business and employment-focused social media platform.
- Mostly used for business, federal hiring managers are starting to use it.
- It helps you connect with other colleagues that are doing similar work.
- Be sure customize your URL www.linkedin.com/in/XXX-XX and add that to your resume or application.
- Your social media is important, be careful with what you put out there!



GUEST PANELISTS



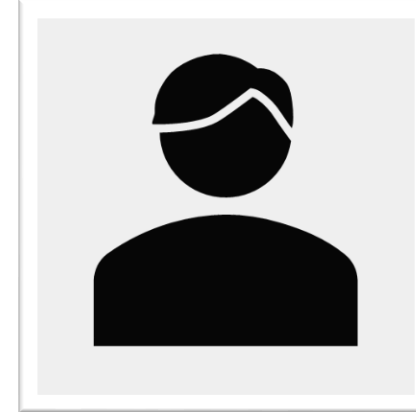
Anna Harris

Geologist/Cave and
Karst Program Manager
Tongass National Forest



Katie Rhode

Geologist/Minerals Program
Manager
Nez Perce-Clearwater
National Forest



Joseph Blanchard

Watershed Program Manager
Umpqua National Forest



ANNA HARRIS

2020 - Present GeoCorps Mentor

2015 & 2017 GeoCorps Participant

- Tongass National Forest Cave Guide
- Tongass NF GIS Analyst (Mapped Glacial Retreat)

2016 Scientist-in-the-Parks Participant

- Glacier National Park Interpretive Ranger

Highlights

- Lead to 1039 seasonal FS positions
- Interpretive skills/public speaking
- Cave and karst survey
- Graduate school
- Permanent Geologist position with the FS





KATIE RHODE

2024 GeoCorps Mentor

- Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest (Idaho)
- Program Manager & Forest Geologist

Highlights

- 2 – GeoCorps participants in 2024, worked 16 weeks (~mid May to end of August)
- Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) focus
- Participants created Survey 123 form for inventory and collected over 30 points to support the AML inventory on the Forest
- Worked closely w/other disciplines
- Experiences with state agencies and partners





CONTACT INFORMATION

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