**Trail GIS Field Technician**

**Summary:** The Santa Monica Mountains Fund, a nonprofit Conservation Corps, in partnership with Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, is seeking 2 qualified members to contribute to our parks Trails Management Plan working with and alongside National Park Staff.

For more information about SAMO Fund, please visit: <www.samofund.org.>

**Start Date:** 05/01/2024

**End Date:** 02/01/2025 (though possibly 07/01/2025)

*\*an 8-month minimum commitment is required \**

*\*The position may be extended for an additional 20-weeks during Phase 2 of the project\**

**Location:** The Santa Monica Mountains is a coastal mountain range in Southern California, next to the Pacific Ocean. It is part of the Transverse Ranges. The Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (SMMNRA, or SAMO) encompasses this mountain range. Because of its proximity to densely populated regions, it is one of the most visited natural areas in California. Numerous communities and cities surround the SMMNRA, providing ample opportunities for housing, travel, and recreation.

The Santa Monica Mountains have dry summers with frequent coastal fog on the ocean (south) side of the range and rainy, cooler winters. In the summer, the climate is quite dry (except for the coastal fog), which makes the range prone to wildfires, especially during dry "Santa Ana" wind events.

For more information about Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, please visit <https://www.nps.gov/samo/index.htm>

**Salary:** Each of the two SAMO Fund Employees is expected to work ~40 hours/week and will receive an hourly salary based on position. Work materials and vehicles are provided, and Personal Protective Equipment is eligible for reimbursement.

GS-7 Equivalent:$30.05/hr starting salary

GS-5 Equivalent: $24.77/hr starting salary

**Housing:**

* *Not provided*: Housing is the responsibility of the member and not provided by the SAMO Fund or Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.

**Scheduling:** Each SAMO Fund member is expected to work a schedule of 4, 10-hour days a week. Monday- Thursday from 6:30am-5:00pm.

**Position Description:** The Santa Monica Mountains Fund (SAMO) and Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (SAMO) are recruiting to hire a Trail Geographic Information System (GIS) technician and assistant that have a fundamental understanding of all aspects of trail planning and alignment. Applicants must be able to competently identify trail structures such as check-steps, muti-tier wall, riprap, and water bars. Applicants must be able to understand trail planning for reroutes and must be able to identify problematic sections of trails.

The Trail GIS Field Technician will perform duties related to a broad spectrum of projects including, but not limited to trail assessments, data entry, trail maintenance work, drystone work, leading youth groups, and graffiti clean-up. Assisting the parks sign shop with fabrication and installs. More specifically, the Trail GIS Tech and Assistant will be involved in the following projects:

* Ground-truthing and updating GIS data for trails and signs.
* Conducting trail assessments on existing trails in SAMO.
* Working alongside the parks GIS specialist and GIS staff to compile information for system updates.
* Working alongside the park’s Roads and Trails crew to compile trail data for future project creation.
* Creating an updating metadata.
* Provide GIS technical assistance, training, and planning with filed office staff on GIS software and geodatabases.
* Applicants may assist NPS trail crew with project work on trails, dry-stonework, and maintenance runs.
* Applicant must have the experience to safely navigate off and on trail, read maps and plan for unforeseen weather changes.

This individual placement is meant to facilitate professional development and promotes exposure to land management agencies and networking with professionals. This could include gaining experience in different conservation fields and shadowing different work groups.

The Trail GIS Tech will assume the lead project role, whereas the assistant will be in a more developmental role.

**Public Land Corps Hiring Authority:**  Members serving under this agreement may be eligible for a hiring authority upon completion of their term of service. PLC projects also include specific eligibility requirements such as age and citizenship. Please contact SAMO Fund staff with questions about eligibility.

**Qualifications:**

*Required*

* Members must be US citizen or Permanent Resident, as required to comply with U.S. government contracts
* Willing and able to represent the SAMO Fund and the partner organization in a professional, positive, and enthusiastic manner.
* Ability to be both self-directed/work alone, and be a positive, contributing member of a group.
* A valid driver's license and an insurable driving record (documentation to be provided upon request).
* Willing to undergo and must pass required criminal history checks.
* Ability to perform the essential duties of the position with or without reasonable accommodation.

*Preferred Skills:*

* Competitive applicants for this position can hold or be pursuing a bachelor's degree and/or have relevant experience in subject areas such as GIS field collecting, trail work, trail assessments, and working in a team environment.
* Proficient using GIS software, specifically ESRI suite including ArcMap with working knowledge of components, tools, and techniques to create maps, manipulate and analyze data, as well as organize layers, required.
* Capacity to collect and maintain filed data in an organized manner that is easily understood and accessible to other staff.
* Applicant must have experience to safely navigate off trail, read maps and plan for unforeseen weather changes.
* Knowledge of trail maintenance, trail tools, GIS data collecting/ data entry, basic carpentry hand tools.
* Ability and willingness to work with local youth and conservation corps on short term projects.
* Deep interest in trail work, trail assessments, trail structures and the benefits of GIS regarding trail planning.
* Knowledge of the Santa Monica Mountains, including common plants, wildlife, and/or geology/topography, desirable.
* Effectively communicate, both written and orally, with a diverse audience.
* Physically able to work long days outside in inclement weather, hike on and off trail. Able to carry up to 50 pounds of equipment.
* Successful applicant(s) must complete a Department of Interior (DOI) background investigation or submit paperwork to NPS human resources indicating an active and fully adjudicated background investigation has already been completed prior to beginning position.

**To Apply:** Early consideration will be given as resumes are received. This position may close at any time. Please submit your resume, a cover letter demonstrating your interest and experience, and contact information for three professional/academic references to Danika Globokar at Danika\_globokar@nps.gov, with a subject line of: **Trails GIS Technician Application**. If you have any questions, you may also send them to the aforementioned contact.

**EEO:** The SAMO Fund provides equal employment opportunities (EEO) to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, or genetics. In addition to federal law requirements, American Conservation Experience complies with applicable state and local laws governing non-discrimination in employment in every location in which the company has facilities.