

**TITLE:** VVMTA Trail Conservation Crew Wilderness Ranger

**LOCATION:** Eagle County, Colorado

**DURATION:** May 2022 - September 30, 2022

**OPEN DATE:** February 25, 2022

**CLOSING DATE:** March 28, 2022



Learn More: <https://www.vvmta.org/>

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## **SUMMARY:**

The Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance (VVMTA) is excited to offer a seasonal full-time Wilderness Ranger position with the Trail Conservation Crew (TCC). The TCC focuses on trail maintenance, trail building, protecting seasonal wildlife closures, closing illegal/social trails, designating campsites and closing illegal campsites, communicating fire restrictions, educating trail users at trailheads, removing garbage, and generally mitigating recreational impacts on trails and public lands. The TCC works across all public lands in Eagle County, functioning as an essential resource for all land managers, agencies, and partners. The Wilderness Ranger position will execute these objectives specifically in a wilderness context focusing on trails within the wilderness boundary as well as trails that access designated wilderness areas. The TCC Wilderness Ranger position will work closely with the USFS wilderness crew in alignment with their strategies of trail management and conservation. The position will involve a large amount of hiking, and occasional multi-day backpacking.

## **ABOUT THE VVMTA:**

The VVMTA is the leading trail advocacy organization in Eagle County, CO. We promote stewardship of our public lands, sustainable trail building practices and a balance between recreation and conservation. We manage trail advocacy programs such as Adopt A Trail and Wildlife Trail Ambassadors, coordinate and train volunteers, educate trail users, and contribute our talents, guidance and time to support local land managers in various soft surface trail initiatives.

## **LOCATION:**

- Eagle County, CO

## **DATES & TIME:**

- May through September
- Wilderness Ranger will work no more than 40 hours per week
- Primary schedule is Thursday - Sunday (exact schedule is subject to change)
- Must be able to work occasional evenings and weekends
- Occasionally backpacking for up to 4 days at a time

**POSITION DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Work with the USFS wilderness crew members to patrol high use wilderness trails
- Assure wilderness areas and trails are maintained to established trail standards
- Lead supervised trail work days with various teams to complete trail work projects
- Clear wilderness trails with cross-cut saws, performs light trail maintenance work
- Assist in re-establishment of native plants at denuded campsites and abandoned trails by preparing the soil for revegetation, transporting plants to the site and protecting the site after revegetation takes place
- Contact user groups to provide wilderness philosophy, regulations, and current camp or fire restrictions
- Provide standard information on resource management and stock use practices in wilderness areas
- Check for compliance with regulations, issues notices for common violations, and reports other violations to the supervisor
- Educate user groups on "Leave No Trace" camping techniques and packing out garbage
- Responsible for curtailing the improper management of human waste and educating people on the importance of campsites placed away from water sources
- Under the guidance of Wilderness crew leads, participates on patrols of off-trail regions of the District
- Inventory previously impacted campsites with Survey 123
- Fills out daily reports of work completed and contacts made
- Works occasionally on non-wilderness trails with the Trail Conservation Crew as assigned by VVMTA staff

**EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Required experience in trail maintenance and construction of sustainable soft surface trail, primarily for non-motorized use
- Required knowledge of standardized trail maintenance and construction practices, techniques, and methods
- Preferred experience training and working with volunteers
- Preferred experience working with land management agencies and other government entities
- Preferred experience with hand tools, power equipment, and heavy machinery directly related to trail maintenance and construction
- Strong communication skills, both written and verbal

- Personable and able to work within a customer service-based environment that involves routine interaction with the public
- Ability to work outdoors for long hours, performing manual labor in all types of conditions
- Competency to make judgment calls in the field around necessary trail improvements and diagnose problems
- Possess a strong attention to detail
- Ability to use web-based apps, software, and website to document work and record hours
- Preferred understanding of our local trails, spending significant time on them through various uses such as mountain biking, hiking, trail running, etc.
- Preferred experience with knowledge of desirable trail characteristics in our local trail system
- Positive attitude with versatility to adapt to a changing work environment
- U.S. Citizen with required forms of identification
- Must be 21 years of age or older with clean driving record

#### **PHYSICAL DEMANDS & WORK ENVIRONMENT:**

- Frequently required to stand, sit, walk, crouch, climb and squat
- Frequently required to walk on uneven or unstable surfaces
- Frequently required to hike 1-4 miles a day
- Frequently required to travel and work remotely
- Frequently required to utilize hand and finger dexterity
- Frequently required to climb, balance, bend, stoop, kneel or crawl
- Frequently required to lift and carry up to 25lbs
- Frequent exposure to heat and cold
- Occasionally required to hike upwards of 15 miles a day
- Occasionally required to carry upwards of 60lbs
- Occasionally required to be exposed to wet and/ or humid conditions
- Occasionally work near moving mechanical parts
- Occasionally work in high, precarious places
- Occasionally work around fumes, airborne particles, or toxic chemicals
- May be required to backpack through wilderness for up to 4 days at a time
- Continually exposed to outside weather conditions
- Willingness to travel (within Eagle County) during work week

#### **BENEFITS:**

- Ability to purchase health insurance through the One Valley Health Care Program

- Access to outdoor industry pro deals
- Gas/fuel stipend
- Cell phone stipend

**COMPENSATION:**

- \$16.00/hr - \$25.00/hr - commensurate with experience

**TO APPLY:**

- Send a resume and letter of interest to: [info@vvmta.org](mailto:info@vvmta.org)

*The Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes a diverse pool of candidates in this search. This program is available to all without regard to race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, political affiliation, or religion.*

*\*A seasonal worker is defined as a person who works for an employer who conducts business only during a defined period of time. Seasonal workers may also be hired in an occupation that operates only for a defined period of time. The season as defined by this job position is April/May 2022 through October 2022. Seasonal workers cannot collect unemployment benefits based on wages paid for the seasonal employment unless they are out of work during the specified season. Seasonal workers who work outside the season are no longer considered seasonal workers and may be able to collect unemployment benefits based on the seasonal wages.*