



Colorado Fourteeners Initiative
A Partnership for Preservation

Position Announcement

GIS/GPS Intern

The Colorado Fourteeners Initiative (CFI) is a nonprofit organization working to protect and preserve the natural integrity of Colorado's 14,000-foot peaks through active stewardship and public education.

Come work on Colorado's highest peaks! CFI seeks to hire a **Geographic Information System (GIS) /Global Positioning System (GPS) Intern** to collect and analyze spatial data related to existing trails, environmental analysis, planning, and trail construction on Colorado's 14,000-foot peaks (Fourteeners). The position requires strong field/outdoor skills as well as technical, computer-based mapping skills. The GPS/GIS Intern is hired and managed by CFI, but will be primarily supervised by the United States Forest Service (USFS) Peak Manager at the Leadville Ranger District in Leadville, Colorado. This internship position provides an opportunity to learn and apply skills in spatial analysis, grow in understanding Colorado's alpine environment, and interact with a talented team of staff and volunteers.

Roles and Responsibilities

The GPS/GIS Intern will assist CFI and the US Forest Service in the areas of field data collection, photo monitoring and map production. Specifically, the intern will assist with a variety of duties which include:

- GPS data collection of existing, proposed, and completed routes on Colorado's 14,000-foot peaks.
- GPS data collection of control points, construction stake locations, trail structures, and photo points.
- Use of Trimble Geo XT with external antennae for GPS data collection.
- Use of Pathfinder Office and TerraSync software for downloading and differential correction of GPS data, correction of errant points, and data conversion.
- Use of Arc 9.1 to correct errant points, screen digitize additional Fourteener routes listed in Fourteener guidebooks, and create map layouts.
- Digital photography of trail construction, maintenance, and restoration areas before and after work is performed.
- Assist with GIS database development and management.
- Assist CFI Design Team and the USFS Peak Manager with trail design.
- Other tasks as assigned.

This is a field-oriented position based from the USFS Leadville Ranger District in Leadville, Colorado, which requires extensive travel (often with a personal vehicle), significant backcountry field time hiking on Colorado's high altitude "Fourteeners," as well as evening and weekend work. The GPS/GIS Intern's fieldwork is physically demanding and much of the work is performed at high altitude. Many nights are spent in a backcountry (camping) environment and intern must be comfortable with solo mountain travel, as data collection is sometimes done alone. Approximately 30% of work time will be spent in the Leadville Ranger District office, downloading and correcting the GPS data and creating map layouts in Arc 9.1 to be used for trail planning and design, in grant requests, and for environmental analysis prior to new trail construction. Some technical training will be provided. Position is 40 hours per week. The internship starts in late May and runs through mid October (4.5 months); however, applicants returning to school in late August will be considered.

Desired Qualifications

Applicants should have:

- Demonstrated experience with Arc 9.1 or 9.2, GPS units (Trimble preferred), MS Office, and overall comfort with computers
- Good physical condition and the ability to hike and work at high altitude with a full backpack
- Confidence in backcountry hiking, camping, and mountain route finding. Applicants must possess personal camping equipment and be proficient in topographic map reading.
- Ability to work independently, efficiently, and with strong attention to detail
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Strong organizational, planning, and logistical skills
- A valid drivers license & personal vehicle (4WD preferred)

- Certification in Wilderness First Aid and CPR or Wilderness First Responder

Other desired qualifications include:

- Education or background in geography, GIS, environmental studies, or related field
- Familiarity with the Colorado alpine environment and ecology
- Familiarity with public land management agencies
- Trail building and restoration experience

Stipend and Benefits

CFI seasonal interns are paid \$1,000 per month to offset costs associated with this position. Other benefits include discounts on gear and equipment, and eligibility for a Training Reimbursement towards CPR and Wilderness First Aid/First Responder classes. Travel with a personal vehicle is reimbursed at the federal rate.

Housing

Housing is not provided in Leadville, Colorado, however the Forest Service sometimes has bunkhouse space available for a minimal charge. Applicants may request to be informed of bunkhouse availability but, if hired, may be required to pursue their own housing options in Leadville.

How to Apply

Position available until filled. However, preference will be given to applications received before **Friday, March 7, 2008**. To apply for a position, applicants must complete and return a **2008 Application for Seasonal Employment & Internships** (available for download at www.14ers.org), **cover letter**, and **resume**. Applicants are encouraged to apply early, as positions will fill quickly. To obtain an application, please check our website at www.14ers.org or contact anya@14ers.org. Please email application materials to anya@14ers.org or send hard copies to:

Internships

Colorado Fourteeners Initiative
607 Tenth Street, Suite 306
Golden, CO 80401

All questions pertaining to these positions can be directed to anya@14ers.org or mailed to the above address (please, no phone inquiries). For additional information about CFI, please visit our website at www.14ers.org.

The Colorado Fourteeners Initiative is an equal opportunity employer and encourages applications from people of all races, ages, sexual orientations, and ethnic and religious backgrounds.