2015 Seasonal Position Announcement

TRAIL DESIGN INTERN
1 position available

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. www.14ers.org

Come work on Colorado’s highest peaks! CFI seeks to hire a volunteer leadership position to implement CFI’s trail maintenance and alpine restoration projects on Colorado’s 14,000-foot peaks (Fourteeners). This is an engaging yet challenging position based out of Colorado’s rugged backcountry. This position requires a strong trailwork skills set; conservation ethic; excellent leadership, logistical, and team skills; experience leading and managing volunteers; and a desire to work in a challenging yet beautiful backcountry setting. Come and join CFI this summer!

The Trail Design Intern is responsible for assisting in the design of new routes, compiling field notes into usable project planning documents and other duties as assigned. The Trail Design Intern will work out of the CFI office in Golden, Colorado and the USFS Leadville Ranger District Office in Leadville, CO. The Trail Design Intern will spend approximately 90% of their time in the field designing CFI’s field projects and overseeing volunteer Design Assistants, and 10% of their time in the USFS office in Leadville, Colorado.

Roles and Responsibilities

- **Assist with technical design for trail construction projects**, to include: measuring and staking, creating maps of potential and final routes, writing construction and restoration notes, marking proposed route structures/construction items, recording prioritized work items, and preparing time estimates. Use Microsoft Excel to write up construction notes and ArcGIS to produce maps.
- **Assist with all phases of project planning and route design**, including: project initiation, route exploration, and route design. Assist CFI staff and USFS Peak Manager to choose potential route corridors, and to select, stake, flag and map proposed and final route alignments on Colorado’s fourteen-thousand foot peaks (“Fourteeners”). Explore additional Fourteener routes listed in Fourteener guidebooks, as needed. Use a GPS unit to map all potential and final route alignments, and digital camera to photograph proposed route alignments, as needed.
- **Monitor** the effectiveness and sustainability of past CFI trail restoration and construction projects, as needed.
- **Conduct high altitude route restoration and construction**, as needed. Continually enhance expertise in alpine route construction and design.
- **Work closely with CFI staff and the US Forest Service (USFS) Peak Manager** to complete project route design. Report to CFI staff weekly on project design progress.
- **Other tasks as assigned** as needed to contribute to the overall administration and operations of CFI and the US Forest Service 14ers Program. Assist with administrative duties as needed and other tasks as assigned.

Work Schedule

In 2015, the Trail Design Intern will assist with all phases of route design, including: project initiation, exploration, and design on some or all of the following Fourteeners: Mt. Shavano, Mt. Columbia, Kit Carson Peak, Castle Peak, Mt. Princeton, Mt. Elbert, Snowmass Mtn., and others. The field season begins approximately June 1 and ends October 1. In order to assist CFI staff members and the USFS Peak Manager with Fourteener route planning statewide, extensive travel—occasionally with a personal vehicle—as well as evening and weekend work is required. The Design Assistant’s fieldwork is physically demanding and much of the work is performed at high altitude. Many nights are spent in a backcountry (camping) environment. The position is field-based with some administrative duties.

Desired Qualifications

Applicants should have some trail building and/or trail design experience; be in excellent physical condition, have a positive and professional attitude, be self-motivated and passionate about the outdoors; possess strong computer skills; and have a strong conservation ethic. Must possess a valid drivers license and have a clean driving record. Other desired qualifications include: familiarity with the alpine environment, strong organizational skills and attention to detail, ability to handle multiple tasks, strong verbal communication skills, willingness and ability to live and perform strenuous work at
high altitude. Valid drivers license and personal vehicle (4WD preferred) required. Certification in CPR and Wilderness First Responder or Wilderness First Aid (WFR preferred) required. Applicants must have an interest in route design and CFI's field projects, be confident in backcountry hiking, camping, and mountain route finding, and should be proficient in topographic map reading and compass use. Applicants must possess GPS/GIS experience and their own camping equipment. Technical rock or ice climbing ability is not required.

**Salary and Benefits**

$1200.00 per month

Benefits include $17/day per diem for field days; medical training allowance ($200.00); eligibility for a performance-based bonus at the end of the season; and discounts on outdoor gear and equipment. Travel with a personal vehicle is reimbursed at the federal rate.

**HOW TO APPLY**

Positions available until filled. However, preference will be given to applications received by *Monday, March 3, 2015*. To apply, you will need to submit 1) CFI online application, 2) one-page cover letter, and 3) your resume as follows:

- Fill out and submit an online [Application for Seasonal Employment & Internships](http://www.14ers.org) (link available on our website at www.14ers.org) Included in the online application will be instructions for how to submit your cover letter and resume to CFI. (NOTE: Cover letter and resume MUST be in MS Word or PDF format.)

If you have trouble with the online application form, submitting your materials in PDF or MS Word format, or submitting your cover letter and resume electronically, contact [hiring@14ers.org](mailto:hiring@14ers.org).

Finalists will be required to complete a medical history, physician’s release form, and a driving background check.

All questions pertaining to these positions can be directed to [hiring@14ers.org](mailto:hiring@14ers.org). (Please, no phone inquiries). For additional information about CFI, please visit our website at [www.14ers.org](http://www.14ers.org).

*The Colorado Fourteeners Initiative is an equal opportunity employer.*

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