

Internship Position

Position Title: Carbon Project Monitoring Intern (UNPAID)

Target Start Date: Spring/Summer Target End Date: by end of August

Note: Exact start date flexible. Position can begin as early as June based on candidate's needs.

Hours per Week: 10-15 hours per week

Sponsoring Department: Policy Department

Position Summary

Forterra aids the restoration of Pacific Northwest forests through a voluntary carbon offset. Forterra provides Washington-based companies and residents the opportunity to partner with local non-profit organizations and community service groups to plant native conifer trees in parks and natural areas in an effort to voluntarily reduce their impact on the climate.

Mapping, monitoring, and maintaining the health and survival of the trees is essential to the success of the program. Therefore monitoring protocols are in place to support this effort. The intern will lead the monitoring and mapping of trees planted in the program with support from Forterra's Restoration Ecologist. The intern will collect monitoring data for trees planted in previous program years. Using a handheld GPS, the intern will map the location of trees planted for the 2013 program. Given the interest and skill of the intern, he/she could also participate in geoprocessing of the data collected, and upload of data to our online mapping system.

The intern will be a face of the carbon program and Forterra with our tree recipients and should be familiar with the program's mission and goals as well as that of Forterra. A willingness to learn about carbon forest projects will also be important.

Specifically this person will:

- Meet tree recipient on-site and identify area of newly planted trees
- Field Collection: delineate geospatial polygons of tree planting area for the 2013 program year.
- Field Collection: collect monitoring data for previous year's planting sites (survival, conditions etc.)
- Take pictures at each program site.
- Geoprocess data using ArcGIS Desktop software: Upload data from hand held GPS into the C3 Trees geodatabase.

Qualifications

- Currently enrolled in, or a recent graduate of, a geography, natural resource, or forestry program pursuing a curriculum that includes an emphasis on GIS or data analysis. (Graduate students or Senior-year undergraduate preferred; 2nd or 3rd year students will be accepted if they have sufficient GIS and GPS training.)
- Basic knowledge and experience with ecologically-based monitoring.
- Basic proficiency with handheld GPS units including Trimble and Garmin.
- Basic proficiency with ArcGIS 10 Desktop software, including ArcMap and ArcCatalog.
- Comfortable in the field and hiking outdoors in variable terrain.
- The ability to learn quickly, take instruction accurately and work independently, but also to ask questions when necessary.
- Strong organizational skills and attention to detail
- Familiarity working with ESRI's ArcOnline a plus.
- Familiarity with carbon offset programs and forest carbon projects a plus, but not required.

Benefits

- Real-world experience with forest carbon projects.
- Field data collection, GPS, and GIS experience.
- Exposure to working with public and private conservation efforts.
- Experience working with a leader in regional forest conservation.