



USDA Forest Service Resource Assistant Program

Position. Resource Assistant-Climate Change Science Fellow

Duration. 8 Month Fellowship (32 weeks): Starting June 2023 – February 2024 (dates are dependent upon the start date)

Location. Wallowa-Whitman National Forest
Forest Supervisors Office
1550 Dewey Avenue
Baker City, Oregon 97814

Reports To. The Resource Assistant-Climate Change Science Fellow will report to the Forest Customer Services Staff Officer and the Blue Mountains Area Ecologist.

Job Overview

The Resource Assistant (RA) will work with Forest resource specialists, regional scientific experts, and others to better incorporate climate change into the planning and NEPA processes on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. This work is especially important given the new Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) NEPA guidance on greenhouse gases and climate change that was recently released.

In addition, this position will also conduct monitoring duties that will help inform the Forest of climate change related changes on the landscape, that can then inform forest planning and management.

Responsibilities and Duties

- Assist with Climate Action Tracker reporting.
- Work directly with Interdisciplinary Planning Teams to better apply our climate change vulnerability assessments into our project planning.
- Provide support for the analysis of greenhouse gases and climate change for the Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision effort.
- Communicate climate change science to forest and district staff in presentations, meetings, and email briefings.
- Coordinate with the Wallowa Whitman Climate Change Coordinator
- If within the skillset of the incumbent, conducting spatial analyses related to climate change that can inform climate change.
- Monitoring duties related to climate change such as revisiting some of our older legacy plots to evaluate any climate change related transitions that may be occurring, White bark pine surveys, etc.
- As needed and depending on the RA's interests, the RA may assist in other duties on the Forest, including assisting specialists with field work, and aiding implementation of other priority Forest projects.



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- Opportunities for professional development, shadowing and mentorship related to the RA's specific career interests will be made available.
- This position is part of a cohort of 20 climate change-focused internships that will receive specialized training and opportunities to engage with other members of the cohort.

Minimum Requirements

- Completion of 2 years at an accredited university, an Associate's degree, or higher
- US citizenship or permanent residency. RAs must undergo a government background check if selected.
- Participation in US Forest Service Orientation Training scheduled for June 2023