



USDA Forest Service Resource Assistant Program

Position Kaibab National Forest Climate Change Resource Assistant

Duration 8 Month Fellowship (32 weeks): June 2023 – February 2024

Location Choice of duty stations on the Kaibab National Forest:

- Supervisor's Office: 800 South 6th Street Williams, AZ 86046
- North Kaibab Ranger District Office: 430 South Main Street P.O. Box 248 Fredonia, Arizona 86022
- Tusayan Ranger District Office: 176 Lincoln Log Loop P.O. Box 3088 Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023

Reports To The Kaibab National Forest Climate Change Resource Assistant will report to the Kaibab Forest Planner.

Job Overview

The Kaibab National Forest Climate Change Resource Assistant will work with employees across the Forest to assist with planning for, and responding to, climate change-related effects and to ensure compliance with new climate change-related regulations and policies. The Resource Assistant will help ensure that environmental analyses at the district- and forest-levels adequately address climate change, greenhouse gas emissions and environmental justice and will provide support for climate change-related reporting and improving sustainability of forest operations through the Forest's Green Team and other opportunities. 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.

Responsibilities and Duties

The Resource Assistant will have the opportunity to work with district and forest-level staff to build a climate change "toolkit" or "guide" for resource specialists to use in their environmental analyses that will include requirements from relevant laws, regulations, and policies as well as guides, tools, and calculators. In tandem with this, the Resource Assistant will also develop a strategy to roll out the guide and provide training and/or support for its implementation in environmental analyses. The Resource Assistant would attend monthly Climate Change Coordinator meetings and assist with dissemination of new information and resources across the Forest.

Other potential tasks and areas in need of support include:

- Completing the FY23 Climate Action Tracker survey
- Updating the draft Kaibab National Forest Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment
- Improving integration of Tribal values and perspectives on climate change in projects, programs, and/or priority-setting



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- Supporting Forest Plan monitoring and reporting as it relates to climate change
- Developing a menu of potential actions to lower emissions and improve the sustainability of the Forest's operations
- Supporting the Kaibab National Forest Green Team
- Updating the Kaibab National Forest Carbon White Paper as needed
- Working with Regional Office planning staff to support regional-wide climate change- and carbon-related reporting
- Working with Public Affairs to update the Forest's web site to reflect work being done to address climate change

Occasional travel may be required, not to exceed 20% time.

Qualifications

The ideal Resource Assistant would have the following knowledge/skills/abilities:

- College- and/or graduate-level coursework in climate change and/or environmental science is essential, along with coursework in another field directly related to land management, such as ecology, biology, hydrology, geology, forestry, land use planning, etc. A Bachelor's degree is required.
- Knowledge of: carbon dynamics, climate change patterns across the West and effects on natural resources along with interactions with other threats including drought, wildfire, and invasive species; and the NEPA process
- Skills in: written and verbal communication; organization; synthesizing and summarizing information from various sources including input from staff, partners, and external experts
- Ability to: work as part of a team and independently; creatively contribute to climate change-related needs and challenges
- Additional skills desired: demonstration of leadership traits; passion for sustainability and climate change (both adaptation and mitigation); ability to navigate new/challenging processes; proficiency with Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and GIS

Minimum Requirements

- Completion of a Bachelor's degree, or higher in natural sciences (environmental science, ecology, biology, hydrology, geology, forestry, land use planning, etc.)
- US citizenship or permanent residency
 - Resource Assistants must undergo a government background check if selected
- Participation in US Forest Service Orientation Training scheduled for June 2023