POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

RMFI
ROCKY MOUNTAIN FIELD INSTITUTE

FIELD INSTRUCTOR

Multiple full-time, seasonal positions available

Announcement Date: December 2, 2021

Application Deadline: Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until positions have been filled. Interviews of well-qualified applicants are anticipated to begin in late January/early February 2022.

Job Location: The RMFI office is located in Colorado Springs, Colorado. RMFI project sites are located primarily in the Pikes Peak Region.

The Rocky Mountain Field Institute (RMFI) is a nonprofit environmental stewardship organization working to protect and conserve public lands in Southern Colorado through volunteer-based trail and restoration projects, environmental education, and restoration research. For more information, please visit www.rmfi.org.

Do you love working outside? This is an exciting opportunity to join the RMFI team. This position will work in some of the Pikes Peak Region's most outstanding natural areas, as well as leading community volunteers, youth corps crews, and students in completing ecological protection and restoration projects.

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS AND VACCINATION MANDATE:

In accordance with Executive Order 14042 (Ensuring Adequate COVID Safety Protocols for Federal Contractors), RMFI will require all employees to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 no later than March 1, 2022. Employees will be considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks after they have received the requisite number of doses of COVID-19 vaccine approved or authorized for emergency use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration or that have been listed for emergency use by the World Health Organization. For vaccines that require 2 doses, an employee is fully vaccinated 2 weeks after the employee has received the second dose. For a single dose vaccine (i.e., Johnson and Johnson (J&J)/Janssen), an employee is fully vaccinated 2 weeks after receiving a single dose. We will ask you to provide proof of vaccination or proof of a medical/religious exemption as part of the job application process. In addition, to maintain a safe working environment for RMFI staff, project partners, and the community, all RMFI staff will be required to adhere to all State and Local COVID-19 guidelines as well as RMFI's internal COVID-19 operating procedures and protocols.

POSITION SUMMARY:

The Field Instructor (FI) works under the supervision of RMFI Program Managers and in close coordination with RMFI Field Coordinators. The FI aids in the planning and implementation of RMFI's trail, restoration, and education field programs. The FI assists program staff in the on-the-ground management of field programs and completion of trail and restoration projects. Primary duties include completing objectives for single and multi-day field projects; instructing volunteers (including school-age children) in trail and restoration techniques; assisting with the oversight of tool, equipment, and food logistics in the field; and completing timely, detailed project work logs, equipment and registration logs, and photo documentation. The FI works with fellow Field Instructors, Field Coordinators, and other RMFI program staff to ensure quality work standards, the highest degree of safety, and an enjoyable experience for all RMFI program participants.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES and RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Supervise volunteers and youth corps crews in the completion of trail and restoration projects and work on those projects alongside other Field Instructors and the Field Coordinators.
- Serve as a member of a RMFI stewardship work crew during project days that do not include volunteers. The proportion of days with and without volunteers is variable.
- Instruct and manage volunteers, students, and other program participants in trail and restoration techniques, field safety, and project objectives.
- Assist with the management of field work days by providing project orientation to participants, properly estimating volunteer and staff requirements, completing work in a timely and efficient manner, and ensuring safety at all times.
- Assist with the management of program safety in the field by ensuring the RMFI Safety Policy and Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) is followed at all times.
- Manage tool, equipment, and food logistics in the field.
- Participate in pre-and post-project activities including briefings, evaluations, and trainings.
- Document work completed, including photos, GPS data, and detailed work logs.
- Assist in training new seasonal staff and interns.
- Assist in promoting and conducting outreach for RMFI programs.
- Assist in implementing environmental education curriculum on select programs.
- Participate in staff trainings and develop new skills and techniques as necessitated by projects.
- Provide clear, effective, and timely communication with the Program Managers, Field Coordinators, and additional staff.

REQUIRED SKILLS and ABILITIES:

- Must be vaccinated or prove religious/medical exemption (per Executive Order 14042, Ensuring Adequate COVID Safety Protocols for Federal Contractors).
- Strong conservation ethic and passion for public lands stewardship.
- Must have a valid driver's license and good driving record.
- Ability to participate in vigorous physical activity for extended periods of time at altitudes up to 10,000+ feet.
- Ability to lift and move a minimum of 40 pounds.
- Current Wilderness First Aid certification required; Wilderness First Responder certification strongly desired (required for backcountry programs).
- Must pass a pre-employment background check.

DESIRED SKILLS and ABILITIES:

Environmental stewardship/outdoor recreation

- Trail building and maintenance, including strong rockwork and/or timberwork experience.
- Natural area restoration including social trail closure, erosion mitigation, post-wildland fire restoration, and invasive species control.
- Experience working with rigging equipment such as griphoists, highlines, and bear hangs.
- Experience working with mule and/or llama pack strings.
- Proficiency in traveling and living in mountainous backcountry environments.
- Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science, Natural Resource Management, Geography, or related field.
- Current S-212 Wildland Fire Chainsaw certification or equivalent certification.
- Experience conducting trail assessments and surveys using TRACS, Survey123, or other similar technology.

Leadership

- Experience overseeing youth conservation corps, AmeriCorps, or other volunteer groups in an outdoor setting.
- Experience in environmental education, volunteer stewardship, outdoor guiding, or related industry preferred.

- Ability to work safely in sometimes-stressful conditions. Extended stays in the field of up to 18 days may be required.
- Self-starter who demonstrates the ability to take initiative, set goals, and achieve them both independently and cooperatively as a team member.
- Ability to respectfully work with a variety of volunteers and students of varying ages and abilities to effectively accomplish project goals. Excellent people skills, a sense of humor, and a positive attitude are a must!
- Ability to solve problems quickly and independently.
- Ability to prioritize and work on multiple projects simultaneously.

WORK SCHEDULE:

RMFI will hire a number of full-time, seasonal Field Instructors for the 2022 field season to work from March through October with the possibility of work extending into November depending upon the availability of project funding. The work schedule is very dynamic; the FI will work an average of 40 hours per week, though hours can fluctuate heavily week-to-week depending on projects. The FI may work up to 70 hours per week and may spend up to 18 consecutive days in the field. The Field Instructor can expect significant time working in the backcountry during the peak alpine season, from June through September. Backcountry work will vary depending on project site and location. The bulk of shoulder season work (March to May and September to October) will primarily follow a day work schedule, during which staff will return home after each workday. The position requires extensive travel, fieldwork, and evening and weekend work. This position is field-based, though some office time is required.

WAGES and BENEFITS:

The Field Instructor position is paid hourly. Pay is consistent with industry standards and will be determined based on experience, certifications and qualifications (anticipated hourly pay range is $13.50-$16.00/hour depending on experience). Travel with a personal vehicle, if required, is reimbursed at the federal rate. For overnight programs, Field Instructors are paid a day rate (10 hours/day) and food and field supplies are provided. Benefits include paid sick leave and discounts on outdoor gear and equipment. Employees meeting certain tenure requirements are eligible to participate in RMFI's SIMPLE IRA retirement plan, including employer contributions of up to 3% to match the employee's contributions to the plan.

TO APPLY:

1. Complete the RMFI Employment Application by visiting this webpage.
2. Please email your cover letter and resume in PDF format to jobs@rmfi.org with "RMFI Field Instructor_YourName" in the subject line.
3. The successful candidate will be required to complete and pass a pre-employment background check. RMFI will notify you of the steps involved in this process after an official hiring offer has been made.

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until all positions are filled. Interviews of well-qualified applicants are anticipated to begin in late January/early February 2022.

The Rocky Mountain Field Institute is committed to a policy of equal treatment and opportunity in every aspect of its relations with staff members and prospective employees, and will not discriminate against applicants for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, age, disability, marital status, sex, or sexual orientation.

RMFI respectfully acknowledges that our work takes place on the traditional unceded territory of the Cheyenne, Núu-agha-tuvu-pu̱ (Ute), and Jicarilla Apache Nations, among others. We acknowledge the painful history of genocide and forced occupation of their territory, and we honor and respect the many diverse indigenous people connected to this land on which our work takes place.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN FIELD INSTITUTE
815 South 25th Street, Suite 101, Colorado Springs, CO 80904
Tel: 719-471-7736, Email: rmfi@rmfi.org, Web: *www.rmfi.org*