

The Nature  
Conservancy



CANYONLANDS  
RESEARCH CENTER  
A PROGRAM OF THE NATURE CONSERVANCY



## NATURE Program NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES UNDERTAKING RESTORATION AND EDUCATION AmeriCorps Individual Placements

### ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

The Canyonlands Research Center (CRC) is a program of The Nature Conservancy created in partnership with academic institutions, land managers, and state and federal research agencies working together to bring the best available science and different knowledge systems to land management decisions.

Founded in 2010, [the CRC's mission](#) is to promote a sustainable future on the Colorado Plateau for people and nature through research, inspiration and demonstration of evidence-based solutions to solve some of our most pressing ecological, social and economic issues.

The CRC is a program of The Nature Conservancy that was built through collaboration and strategic partnerships, and its success depends on active involvement from the U.S. Geological Survey, Utah State University, the Bureau of Land Management, Canyonlands National Park and the USDA Forest Service.

### POSITION OVERVIEW

The Nature Conservancy, Utah State University-Blanding, and the Utah Conservation Corps have launched an 8-week paid Individual Placement position in natural resource management for students with tribal backgrounds. The Native American Tribes Undertaking Restoration and Education (NATURE) program seeks to bridge the gap between traditional ecological knowledge and western science by mentoring and training a small cadre of undergraduates from tribal backgrounds to work at the interface of scientific research, public lands management, and tribal perspectives.

Individual Placements will receive hands on training in essential skills while providing direct services in GIS, remote sensing, methods in rangeland assessments, ecological restoration, and inventory and monitoring methods from leading experts in the field. Individual Placements will also have the experience to meet and be mentored by traditional Indigenous practitioners, land managers, and professors as they complete a capstone environmental education project and presentation.

Individual Placements will be expected to live in provided housing during the program. Individual Placements are also expected to commit full-time over the 8-week period to the program. It will not be possible to have other commitments (e.g. jobs, classes) during the program. The program will run from June 17th through August 9th, 2024, and is a 300-hour AmeriCorps Individual Placement position. Individual Placements will present their work in a final presentation at the end of their summer projects. Individual Placements **will serve approximately 40 hours per week and be supervised by the Program Manager.**

### **PRIMARY DUTIES (DIRECT SERVICES)**

- Develop a data tracking plan and collect and report impact data in a timely and accurate manner. This data will be reported monthly on IPT and may include acres treated, environmental education & volunteer management metrics. Data must also be stored as requested by the service site.
- Attend field work sessions in dynamic outdoor settings. Expect inclement weather conditions and steep, hazardous terrain.
- Assist in habitat, wetland, alpine, and river restoration projects.
- Complete GIS and Remote Sensing projects.
- Assist in rare plant and long-term monitoring projects.
- Conduct rangeland assessments and vegetation identification.
- Design and complete an independently researched project with support of a mentor.
- Present a 10-15 min PowerPoint presentation on independent projects.

### **TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES (20% maximum time served can be member development and training)**

Individual Placements will receive training in essential skills including:

- Research, data collection, management, basic interpretation, and summarization.
- GIS and remote sensing training.
- Methods in rangeland assessments, ecological restoration, and inventory and monitoring.
- Complete reading and assignments in preparation for weekly topics and projects.
- Attend lectures and discussions on weekly topics.
- Participants will also have the experience to meet and be mentored by traditional indigenous practitioners, public land managers, and professors as they complete a final presentation.
- UCC Orientation Modules (required).

### **POSITION REQUIREMENTS**

AmeriCorps Requirements (all below required):

- Be a United States citizen, United States national, or a lawful permanent resident alien of the United States.
- Be at least 18 years of age.
- Eligible to serve in an AmeriCorps State/National term. Please note that AmeriCorps rules limit members to a maximum of four AmeriCorps terms in a program such as UCC. AmeriCorps also limits the number of education awards an individual may earn. This rule states that "although an individual can serve more than two terms, a person cannot earn

more than the aggregate value of two, full-time education awards."

- It is a requirement to obtain a high school diploma or GED before one is eligible to use the Education Award.
- Must submit to and pass a background check. Must be clear of any record on the National Sex Offender Public Registry. Must have a criminal record clear of any conviction(s) for murder.
- Days will include two 15-minute breaks and one 30-minute lunch. The 30-minute lunch break does not count toward term of service hours.

#### Position Specific Requirements:

- Enrolled Membership in a Federally recognized Tribe.
- All applicants must be currently enrolled in an associate or bachelor's degree program OR recent graduates.
- A positive and professional manner with diverse populations.
- Able/willing to serve outdoors in sometimes unpleasant weather conditions and participate in often strenuous physical labor.

#### **COMPENSATION**

- **\$4,800.00 total living allowance** (taxable; paid in even bimonthly (TWICE per month) disbursements throughout the term of service).
- **\$1,459.26 education award** (available to members upon successful completion of service term hours AND dates).
- Federal, student loan forbearance and, workers compensation for all members. More information can be found [here](#).
- **Housing with utilities provided**; this will be a shared room in house or dorm where common areas and restrooms are shared.
- Utah State University Enrollment and three **USU credits** ENVS 4250 (at no cost to you, transferrable depending on your institution's credit policy).

## HOW TO APPLY

Research shows that candidates from underrepresented populations often don't apply for positions if they don't meet all the position qualifications and skillsets. We strongly encourage you to apply if you are interested!

**The first review of applications will take place April 1, 2024. Applications received by April 1 will receive preference.**

1. Applications should include the following information in a **single pdf file**:

- Cover page (see attached template)
- Curriculum vitae (CV) or resume
- One-page personal statement
- Three professional or academic references (name, email, and phone for each).

2. Applicants must also provide proof of Enrollment & Membership in a Federally recognized Tribe.

### **CLICK BELOW TO APPLY:**

[https://usu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_cGZPWGhVX05McgS](https://usu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cGZPWGhVX05McgS)

For additional information or to set up an information session please contact Kristen Redd [Kristen.redd@TNC.org](mailto:Kristen.redd@TNC.org)

Please see the link here for a short video on writing a personal statement:

<https://www.indeed.com/career-advice/resumes-cover-letters/how-to-write-a-personal-statement>

For guidance on creating a CV or resume please go here:

<https://gradschool.cornell.edu/career-and-professional-development/pathways-to-success/prepare-for-your-career/take-action/resumes-and-cvs/>

### Diversity Statement

Utah Conservation Corps is an equal opportunity program. Qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, age, protected veteran, or disabled status. UCC is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for application and service with our programs.

### About the Utah Conservation Corps

The Utah Conservation Corps (UCC) is an AmeriCorps program dedicated to developing the conservation leaders of tomorrow. We're a non-residential AmeriCorps program composed of AmeriCorps members, staff, and partners dedicated to service to our community, the environment, and regions requiring disaster response efforts.

Additionally, as an organization, we seek to provide a more welcoming environment for people of all backgrounds and experience levels to ensure a healthy, vibrant, innovative, and sustainable corps. The UCC is committed to an inclusive culture of community and service and to recognizing and addressing our shortcomings. Our vision is to create sustainable communities and conserve the natural heritage of Utah and the Intermountain West.

#### UCC's Zero Tolerance Policies

The following behaviors will result in immediate termination. At no time may the UCC AmeriCorps member:

- Engage in activities that pose a significant safety risk to others or physically or emotionally damage members of the program or community, such as harassment, hostile work environment, or bullying;
- Possess, consume, or be under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol during the performance of service activities or while living and working at the UCC project site, campsite, or in UCC vehicles (which includes showing up to work hungover); and
- Fail to notify the UCC of a criminal arrest or conviction during their term of service.

#### Land Acknowledgement Statement

As part of Utah State University, a land grant institution, UCC acknowledges Utah State University campuses and centers reside and operate on the territories of the eight tribes of Utah, who have been living, working, and residing on this land from time immemorial. These tribes are the Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Indians, Navajo Nation, Ute Indian Tribe, Northwestern Band of Shoshone, Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, San Juan Southern Paiute, Skull Valley Band of Goshute, and White Mesa Band of the Ute Mountain Ute. Along with USU, we acknowledge these lands carry the stories of these Nations and their struggles for survival and identity. We recognize Elders past and present as people who have cared for, and continue to care for, the land. In offering this land acknowledgment, we affirm Indigenous self-governance history, experiences, and resiliency of the Native people who are still here today.

USU Blanding, We recognize Utah State University Blanding resides on the ancestral, traditional, and contemporary lands of the Navajo Nation, San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the White Mesa Ute peoples. USU commits to creating and instilling a continuous relationship with tribal nations and fostering a partnership through community, family (clan/bands), research, education, and programming. In offering this land acknowledgment, we affirm Tribal Sovereignty, history, and experiences.