

## **CLEARWATER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION**

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# **REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS**

# 8-week paid summer work position for: Clearwater Basin Youth Conservation Corps (CBYCC) Wilderness Crew Member

# Deadline: 5:00 p.m. PDT April 19, 2024

#### **POSITION SUMMARY**

Are you up for challenging but rewarding work? Do you love the outdoors and remote places where you see few people and a lot of country?

The <u>Clearwater Basin Youth Conservation Corps</u> (CBYCC) is now accepting applications for our 8-week, paid summer work program. As a CBYCC Wilderness Trail Crew member, you will work on a crew with 4-5 others to gain skills and knowledge that will prepare you for a career in natural resources. In this job you will spend your summer out in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness working with the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests' Wilderness Trail Crew. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to earn while you learn and be part of a team working to enhance and protect our Wilderness and natural resources. Crews will be based out of the Fenn Ranger Station on the Selway River.

In addition to learning while you work, you will have professional development and soft skills training, including CPR/First Aid, resume writing, interview practice, networking, and more!

We will be hiring 2 youth to assist the Forest Service Wilderness Trail Crew in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. These Wilderness Trail Crew members will clear trail and brush while sawing, pruning, digging, and hiking to reach trail locations in the Wilderness.

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#### **COMPENSATION AND WORK SCHEDULE**

CBYCC Wilderness Trail Crew members are paid \$15 per working hour and will receive overtime pay for hours worked in excess of 40 hours in a workweek (Sunday through Saturday). Wilderness Trail Crews will either work 9 consecutive days on duty and have 5 consecutive days off duty or 10 consecutive days on duty and have 4 consecutive days off duty, depending on which crew they are assigned to. This 14-day period is considered 1 hitch, and we anticipate our Wilderness Trail Crew members working 4 hitches. Wilderness Trail Crews typically work 80 hours over each hitch. Hitches begins on the first Tuesday of each pay period. Employment begins approximately June 10, 2024 and ends August 1, 2024. Wilderness Trail Crew members will also receive per diem during their overnight stays.

#### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS AND DETAILS

Youth **must** be no younger or no older than **18** years old on the first day of employment.

CBYCC Wilderness Trail Crew members are expected to pack in their own food, clothing, personal items, etc. for each hitch when pack support is not available. Other personal items include good hiking boots, a quality sleeping bag (may be available to borrow), and good quality rain gear.

Please note that this is not a residential program. Youth are responsible for their own housing and transportation to and from the muster location each week. Lodging in the Wilderness will be primitive camping. To reach most worksites, crew members will be required to hike while carrying personal gear and tools.

Crew members will be required to hike long distances to and from the worksite, or camp in a new location at the end of each workday. Crew members travel in difficult terrain, carrying packs weighing 50 to 75 pounds. Work will be conducted in all types of weather including rain, snow, and temperatures well over 100F°. Crew members may be in the field for a duration of 9–10 days with no access to personal communication devices. The CBYCC Wilderness Trail Crew work is strenuous but a rewarding opportunity to learn effective teamwork, trail maintenance, and Wilderness area stewardship and management.

Wilderness Trail Crew members are responsible for transportation to and from the muster (meeting) location at Fenn Ranger Station on the Selway River at the beginning and end of each hitch.

#### **ABOUT WILDERNESS**

Wilderness areas are federal lands that designated by Congress for protection and preservation of primitive lands in their natural state, without human habitation or improvements. Wilderness is designated for public use by recreation, scenic qualities, scientific, education, conservation, and historic use. The Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness was one of the first Wilderness areas designated by Congress in the Wilderness Act of 1964. The Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness, when combined with the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness to the south, make up the largest collective Wilderness area in the contiguous United States at 3.7 million acres.

Work will be conducted with numerous tools, including shovels, picks, crosscut saws, Pulaskis, and other tools for maintaining trail. All necessary equipment and safety gear will be furnished by the CBYCC or the Forest Service. Crew Members are expected to furnish their own work clothing and boots.

### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

Please submit a resume and cover letter. The cover letter should answer the following questions. Please limit response to no more than two pages:

- Why do you want to be a member of the CBYCC Wilderness Trail Crew?
- What experience do you have that will assist you in being a successful member of the Wilderness Trail Crew?
- Working on a Wilderness Trail Crew requires being able to go for long periods of time without a lot of human interaction in very remote places. Explain how you feel you will be suited to this type of situation.
- Safety is imperative to consider in the backcountry. What will you do to ensure the safety of yourself and others while working and living with the Wilderness Trail Crew?

Please submit application materials via email by 5:00 p.m. (Pacific Time) on April 19, 2024 to:

Clearwater Economic Development Association <u>cbycc@clearwater-eda.org</u> (208)746-0015

Review of application materials will take place soon after the closing date. Applicants will be notified of their status within 10 days of the closing date.

#### BACKGROUND

Beginning in 2020 Clearwater Economic Development Association, a nonprofit organization will partner with Clearwater RC&D to transition management of the CBYCC program. Please note changes in contact information from previous years.

The Clearwater Economic Development Association (CEDA) drives regional development and works with community leaders to build community assets and wealth within the Idaho counties of Clearwater, Idaho, Latah Lewis, and Nez Perce. More information regarding CEDA may be found at <u>www.clearwater-eda.org</u>

CEDA works cooperatively with the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests' Recreation, Wilderness, Trails, and Rivers programs to engage youth in the Clearwater Basin Youth Conservation Corps (CBYCC), a summer employment program. **CEDA is seeking two 18 year-olds to join the Wilderness Trail Crew on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests.** 

#### TERMS

This solicitation does not commit the CEDA to pay any costs incurred by the applicant in the preparation or presentation of RFQ materials, including any interview time and expense. All responses to this RFQ become the property of CEDA. The content of all submitted materials will be kept are confidential until the selection of the successful applicants is publicly announced.