



2022 Wilderness Ranger Fellow POSITION DESCRIPTION

SBFC Mission: *The Selway Bitterroot Frank Church Foundation assists the Forest Service in providing stewardship for the Selway-Bitterroot and Frank Church River of No Return Wildernesses and surrounding wildlands through on the ground work, public education, and partnerships.*

Start Date: May 16, 2022

End Date: August 19, 2022

Title: SBFC Wilderness Ranger Fellow

Length of Service: 14 weeks

Living Allowance: \$ 400/Week

Benefits:

- Fellows will receive a total award of \$5,600 paid monthly for their 14 weeks of service.
- Housing will be provided: FS bunk housing or camping on your assigned forest and campsites during training
- Federal mileage reimbursement rate of .57/mile for personal vehicle use for work
- Wilderness First Responder or Refresher training
- \$200 travel reimbursement
- 2 SBFC work shirts
- 3-4 weeks of wilderness conservation training and 10-11 weeks of experiential learning and living in the Selway-Bitterroot or Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness areas and surrounding wildlands

Location: Fellows will be assigned to one forest for the season. This will be on one of the following forests: the Nez Perce-Clearwater, Bitterroot, Salmon-Challis, or Payette National Forests. The specific location of the housing details will be provided to you at the beginning of your service.

PLEASE NOTE: *Forest Service (FS) housing is located in very remote locations! Some are located farther than an hour drive from the nearest town. Do not plan on having WIFI or cell phone service at FS bunkhouses.*

Position Overview:

The SBFC Wilderness Ranger Fellow (WRF) program provides an immersive experience in Wilderness conservation and management through hands-on stewardship. Your Fellowship will provide you with wilderness conservation and management training, Wilderness-focused education, experience living in the wilderness for up to 9 days at a time, personal mentoring and employment development opportunities while helping SBFC and the US Forest Service accomplish priority Wilderness work. You will learn to live and work as part of a wilderness stewardship crew in remote landscapes and forests.

WRF's will receive 3-4-weeks of training by SBFC staff and professional Forest Service Wilderness managers. Training will include:

- Wilderness First Responder certification
- USFS Crosscut Bucking certification
- Fundamentals of maintaining trails to Wilderness specifications
- Wilderness Act of 1964 history and significance
- Conducting Wilderness Stewardship Performance (WSP) Monitoring
- Leave No Trace principles and ethics
- Backcountry nutrition and safety
- Introduction to horsemanship and stock packing
- Leadership development and government job application training

Fellows will work in teams of three to five members. These teams, or crews, will be led by a professional SBFC Lead Wilderness Steward. You will spend your season working together in either the Selway-Bitterroot or the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness, on one of the four forests.

From June until August, WRFs will *typically* operate on a hitch schedule of 80 hours. This means you will work 8-9 consecutive days and live and work in the backcountry, followed by 4-6 days off. During the 4-6 days off, housing will be provided at a Forest Service bunkhouse or a campground.

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Fellows typically participate in at least one SBFC volunteer project. This is a special opportunity to practice wilderness leadership skills by providing support to youth and adult volunteers who may be from the surrounding communities or other states. WRFs are expected to fully assist in volunteer guidance, food preparation and all safety protocols.

Minimum Required Experience & Education

- Applicants must be currently enrolled in a college or university or have graduated between fall 2021 and spring 2022. Military veterans must be within one to two years of being discharged.
- Coursework in conservation, land management, sciences and related is encouraged
- Effective communication skills and ability to be open to new experiences
- Willingness to participate fully as a team member for up to 9 days at a time in remote backcountry
- Willingness to live in a remote FS bunkhouse without Wi-Fi and cell service
- Previous strenuous outdoor experience
- Willingness to live and work outdoors for up to 10 days at a time
- Physical requirements:
 - Ability to hike 10+ miles a day for several days at a time, in difficult terrain with a 50+ pound backpack and hand tools
 - Ability to lift up to 35 pounds repeatedly and use hand tools.
 - Willingness to work long, hard hours in all weather conditions.

Please Note: This position description describes the general nature and level of work you will be required to participate in as a Wilderness Ranger Fellow. But it is not an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties, and skills required. All Wilderness Ranger Fellows may be required to perform duties outside of their normal responsibilities and duties as requested.

Application Deadline is 1/15/22. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and positions may be filled before the deadline.

For more information and to apply, please visit the SBFC website:

<https://www.selwaybitterroot.org/fellowship>

Or contact SBFC Program Manager Ian Davidson: iandavidson@selwaybitterroot.org.

Equal Employment Opportunity Statement:

Wilderness benefits everyone. The 1964 Wilderness Act was passed "...to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness" (section 2a). SBFC provides access and equal opportunity to diverse groups of staff, volunteers, and other participants, while continuing to identify and reduce barriers to being involved in our organization and programs. We encourage applicants of all backgrounds to apply.