



## Southern Sierra Apprenticeship 2024

### Apprenticeship Overview

Apprentices will be selected to work on restoration and fuels reduction projects in the Western Divide ranger district of the Giant Sequoia National Monument. Apprentices will work closely with Save The Redwoods League staff and contracted Registered Professional Forester. This program will provide professional networking opportunities with Save the Redwoods League (STRL), USDA Forest Service, and other partners within the Giant Sequoia Lands Coalition. Apprentices will develop skills in scientific inventory and monitoring, forestry data collection and survey methods, public speaking, and field safety. Necessary field equipment including a first aid kit will be provided, however, apprentices typically supply their own clothing, boots, etc. If you do not have your own gear or ability to obtain it, please still apply, as we may be able to help with certain items.

### Giant Sequoia Restoration

The mission of Save The Redwoods League is to protect, restore and connect people to California's redwood forests. Within the Sierra Nevada, the League is working to restore fire resilience and forest health to giant sequoia groves that are under threat due to a history of fire suppression and climate change. The League owns and manages its Alder Creek property in Tulare County and works under a Master Stewardship Agreement with the USDA Forest Service to restore giant sequoia groves within the Giant Sequoia National Monument. Visit the [Giant Sequoia Lands Coalition website](#) to learn more about how Save The Redwoods League and collaborating agencies are working to conserve giant sequoia grove ecosystems!

Applicants should expect long days of arduous fieldwork, hiking off trail, variable hours, and work that will require attention to detail. Applicants are required to camp at Alder Creek, Save The Redwoods League remote property for the entirety of the four-day work week. Amenities such as temporary tents, hot water, outdoor showers, and cooking facilities are available for apprentices to use during the work week.

Applicants must be available for the full 10-week apprenticeship. Summer work (40hrs/week) 4–10-hour days with a required orientation. Orientation will begin May 28<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> at Reedley College.

Students may receive credit from the apprenticeship program for the following classes:

Bakersfield College

- FORE B48WE: Work experience education/internship.

Reedley College

- NR- 19V: Cooperative work experience.

If a student does not have a personal vehicle or the ability to get a driver's license, please still apply as we may be able to work with you. The reporting location for all apprentices will be at the Western Divide Ranger Station 32588 CA-190, Springville, CA 93265.

**Eligibility Requirements (if hired) - applicants must:**

- Be enrolled for classes in Fall 2024 semester or graduating this spring from Bakersfield College or Reedley College.
- Complete the Defensive Driver Training (online)  
<https://www.dgs.ca.gov/Services/Page-Content/Service-List/Enroll-in-Defensive-Driver-Training>
- Have a valid driver's license (or obtain one prior to May 20<sup>th</sup>.)
- Be willing to work long days with arduous fieldwork, hiking off trail, and variable hours.
- Ability to camp on remote property for the duration of the work week.
- Arrange their own transportation to work reporting locations (Tulare County)

Successful applicants will demonstrate: Attention to detail and direction, an eagerness to learn, values and respect for collaboration and shared responsibility, and a positive attitude. Apprentices will be allowed one week of unpaid vacation in the Summer.

Payment for this apprenticeship is \$16.00/hour for 40 hours per week, with the work typically being done in four ten-hour shifts. Once the overtime (1.5x pay, or \$24.00/hour) rate is applied to the two overtime hours per day, the final average rate is \$17.60/hr.

**Applications**

- Complete [online application form](#). Application deadline is March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- If you have any questions, contact Neida Roriguez at [nrodriguez@savetheredwoods.org](mailto:nrodriguez@savetheredwoods.org)

# Forestry Apprenticeship – Position Description

## Positions available

- Up to 4 positions available.

## Reporting Location

- Springville, CA 93265

## Program Objectives

- Assist with fuels reduction projects on the Western Divide ranger district with the objective to mitigate wildfire behavior around Giant Sequoias. Gain the skills and knowledge needed in the field to continue a career in Forestry.

## Apprentice Duties and Responsibilities

- Delineation of Riparian/Wetland and Equipment Exclusion Zones – Apprentice will learn to read the lay of the land and flag off sensitive treatment areas.
- Forest Inventory – Apprentice will learn timber cruising techniques used to sample and assess forest characteristics.
- Forest Monitoring (as needed) – Apprentice will learn how to establish new and re-measure existing permanent forest monitoring plots using established monitoring protocols. This includes learning plant species identification.
- Timber Marking (as needed) – Apprentice will learn how to mark trees for removal or retention using specific silvicultural prescriptions.

## Desired Skills and Qualifications

Applicant should display:

- The ability to camp on Save the Redwoods League Alder Creek property for weeklong periods of time.
- Strong desire and willingness to work in the field.
- Understanding of the physical demands on the job, able to hike long distances on steep terrain, uneven ground, and in all weather conditions.
- Interest in natural sciences, resource management, and restoration
- Experience working in harsh terrain in variable weather conditions.

Applicant must possess:

- A flexible demeanor and ability to shift duties as priorities change.
- Ability to work well with others on interdisciplinary teams and cross train others assisting with daily tasks.
- Attention to detail in collecting and recording data.
- Basic knowledge of Avenza maps, field maps, and ArcGIS
- An understanding that this job will be arduous, with long-distance, off-trail hiking through forests and riparian areas in steep terrain with thick brush and large, downed logs in all weather conditions.
- A valid driver's license.

## Preferred Courses

- Bakersfield College (any of the following)
  - FORE B48WE: Work experience education/internship.
- Reedley College
  - NR- 19V: Cooperative work experience.