

Job Announcement: Redwoods Rising Apprenticeship 2025

Redwoods Rising

Redwoods Rising is a unique collaboration among California State Parks, Redwood National Park, and Save the Redwoods League that integrates multiple disciplines to achieve landscape-scale ecosystem restoration. The primary goal of the Redwoods Rising Apprenticeship is twofold: to provide a career development opportunity for the next generation of natural resource managers and to boost capacity for Redwoods Rising projects. Redwoods Rising is about to begin its 6th year implementing ecosystem restoration projects in the **Greater Prairie Creek (GPC)** area (comprising Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park and Redwood National Park).

Apprenticeship Overview

Apprentices will be selected to work on restoration projects in **GPC** and will function as a team, working closely with staff from the National Park Service on redwood ecosystem restoration. This program will provide professional networking opportunities with Save the Redwoods League, the National Park Service, and California State Parks. Apprentices will develop skills in scientific inventory and monitoring, data collection and survey methods, public speaking, and field safety. Necessary field equipment including a first aid kit will be provided by Redwoods Rising, 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. Previous Apprenticeship Program participants are welcome to apply to the same apprenticeship as an Apprentice II; please indicate this detail on the application form.

Apprentices will be assigned to specific teams in the following disciplines: forestry, roads, and aquatics. However, candidates should expect that they will also work across disciplines depending on the restoration projects and needs. Therefore, *all* positions have the following requirements:

- 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;
- An attention to detail in collecting and recording data; and
- 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.

Applicants should expect long days (four 10-hour days/week). Summer work will be 12 weeks (40hrs/week) with a required orientation during the first two to four days of the Apprenticeship beginning on May 19 and ending on August 8.

The reporting location for all apprenticeships will be in McKinleyville, CA.

Eligibility Requirements (if hired) - applicants must:

- Be an undergraduate enrolled for classes in Fall 2025 semester or graduating May 2025 from Cal Poly Humboldt (CPH) or College of the Redwoods (CR).
- Complete online Defensive Driver (DD) Training prior to May 19. Information on DD courses will be provided after applicants are hired.
- Be willing to complete a federal background check.
- Have a valid driver's license (or obtain one prior to May 19).
- Be willing and physically able to work long days with arduous fieldwork, hiking off-trail, with variable hours.
- Arrange their own transportation, including carpooling with other apprentices, to reporting location (McKinleyville, CA).
- Deliver a culminating presentation to Redwood National & State Parks staff at the end of the field season and possibly at the Informational Meeting for next year's apprenticeship.

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 first-time apprentices is \$16.50/hour for 40 hours/week, with the work typically being done in four ten-hour shifts. Once the overtime (1.5x pay) rate is applied to two hours per day, the final rate is \$18.15/hr. Apprentice II pay will be \$18.50/hr, also with the work typically done in four ten-hour shifts. Once the overtime (1.5x pay) rate is applied to two hours per day, the final rate is \$20.35/hr.

Informational Meeting & Presentation

Cal Poly Humboldt (CPH): Monday February 3rd, 2025, 5:30-7pm, Cal Poly Humboldt, Wildlife & Fisheries Building, room 258 and College of the Redwoods (CR): Thursday February 13th, 2025, 3-4:25pm, AT 127.

There will be Pizza!

Applications

- [2025 Redwoods Rising Apprenticeship Application](#) - Due by Friday, February 21 by 11:59 pm.
- If you have any questions, please contact Redwoods Rising at redwoodsrising@savetheredwoods.org
- Visit the [Redwoods Rising Website](#) to learn more about the project and apprenticeship.
- *Save the Redwoods League, California State Parks, and the National Park Service seek to increase diversity in the workplace and are committed to creating an environment of equity and inclusion. People of all identities, backgrounds, and cultures are encouraged to apply.*

Redwoods Rising Apprentice Job Descriptions

Aquatics Forestry Roads Apprentice II

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL POSITIONS: If hired, apprentices must:

- Be enrolled for classes in Fall 2025 semester or graduating this spring from CPH or CR.
- Complete online Defensive Driver (DD) Training prior to May 19; information on DD courses will be provided after applicants are hired.
- Be willing to complete a federal background check.
- Have a valid driver's license (or obtain one prior to May 19).
- Be willing and physically able to work long days with arduous fieldwork, hiking off-trail, and variable hours.
- Arrange their own transportation to work reporting location (McKinleyville, CA).
- Deliver a culminating presentation to Redwood National & State Parks staff at the end of the field season and possibly at the Informational Meeting for next year's apprenticeship.
- Have a flexible demeanor and ability to shift duties as priorities change.
- Be able to work well with others on interdisciplinary teams, cross-train others, and assist with daily tasks.
- Have attention to detail in collecting and recording data.
- Understand 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.

Aquatics Apprenticeship

Position Objectives

- Assist with long-term monitoring of wadable stream reaches in GPC and Greater Mill Creek watersheds. Collect data on stream reaches pre- and post- road removal. Assist with other aquatics-related projects as needed.

Apprentice Duties and Responsibilities

- Collect baseline data for unburied stream channels
- Field-validate streams in unrestored basins
- Collect stream habitat data for analysis towards riparian restoration
- Conduct habitat surveys for previous and future projects in Prairie Creek

Desired Skills and Qualifications

- Ability to and interest in working outside all summer in harsh terrain in variable weather conditions
- Interest in working with water
- Educational background in watershed management, environmental engineering, environmental science, environmental studies, or fisheries
- Familiarity with identification of aquatic (fish, non-fish, and invertebrates) and plant (particularly tree) species
- Experience conducting habitat surveys – using tapes and stadia rods to measure depths and widths
- Basic knowledge of Avenza maps, field maps, and ArcGIS

Preferred Courses (any of the following)

Cal Poly Humboldt

- o BIOL 105: Principles of Biology
- o CHEM 107: Fundamentals of Chemistry
- o ENGR 351: Introduction to Water Quality
- o ENGR 440: Hydrology I
- o ENGR 448: River Hydraulics
- o FISH 260: Fish Conservation and Management
- o FISH 300: General Education
- o FISH 380: Techniques in Fisheries Biology
- o OCN 109: General Oceanography
- o SOIL 260: Introduction to Soil Science
- o STAT 109: Introductory Biostatistics
- o WSHD 310: Hydrology and Watershed Management
- o ZOOL 110: Introductory Zoology

College of the Redwoods

- o FNR 54: Introduction to Natural Resource Inventory Techniques
- o FNR 80: Introduction to Watershed Management

Roads Apprenticeship

Position Objectives

- Provide comprehensive road layout mapping in accordance with the 2025 Redwoods Rising Roads Operations work plans.

Apprentice Duties and Responsibilities

- Perform reconnaissance of future work units
- Assist with mapping road units in GPC project area
- Assist with surveying road units
- Identify erosion features
- Flag and mark trees
- Monitor previous work completed and collect photo points, identifying and quantifying any erosion

Skills and Qualifications

- 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
- Basic knowledge of Avenza maps, field maps, and ArcGIS

Preferred Courses (any of the following)

- | | |
|--|--|
| ● Cal Poly Humboldt | ● College of the Redwoods |
| o FOR 210: Forest Measurement and Biometry | o AG 17: Introduction to Soil Science |
| o FOR 353: Forest Road/Location & Design | o FNR 31: Geospatial Concepts |
| o GSP 101: Geospatial Concepts | o FNR 54: Introduction to Natural Resource |
| o SOIL 260: Introduction to Soil Science | Inventory Techniques |
| o SOIL 460: Wildland Soil Management & | o FNR 80: Introduction to Watershed |
| Erosion Control | Management |
| o WSHD 310: Hydrology & Watershed | |
| Management | |
| o WSHD 424: Watershed Hydrology | |

Forestry Apprenticeship

Position Objectives

- Help with preparing 2026 sites for treatment implementation and work alongside the Forester, Lead Forestry Tech, and Field Operations Manager on contract inspections. Apprentices will help produce products that include maps, locations, and summaries of the resource inventories for the Prairie Creek project area. These work products will provide the GPC Forestry Team with decision-making tools for the ongoing restoration planning.

Apprentice Duties and Responsibilities

- Delineation of Riparian/Wetland and Equipment Exclusion Zones – Apprentices will learn to read the lay of the land and flag-off sensitive treatment areas.
- Forest Inventory – Apprentices will learn timber cruising techniques used to sample and assess forest characteristics.
- Contract Inspection – Apprentices will learn the basics in monitoring contract progress and may serve as “eyes and ears” on the ground for the Forestry Team Leads.
- Forest Monitoring (as needed) – Apprentices will learn how to establish new and re-measure existing permanent forest monitoring plots using established monitoring protocols. This work includes learning plant species identification.
- Timber Marking (as needed) – Apprentices will learn how to mark trees for removal or retention using specific silvicultural prescriptions.

Desired Skills and Qualifications

- A strong interest in learning about natural resource science and management and desire and willingness to work in the field
- Good communication skills and ability to work productively as part of a diverse team
- Reliable, prompt, and committed to agreed-upon work schedule.
- Physically fit, able to work 10-hour days outdoors, and capable of hiking long distances (about 5-6 miles) off-trail in arduous terrain in a variety of weather conditions. Willing to work a flexible weekly schedule.
- Ability to comfortably work in the field. Self-motivated and able to function independently once field assignments are understood.
- Background in Forestry or be working towards a Forestry degree.
- Previous field experience in any capacity is highly recommended due to the arduous nature of the landscape.
- Basic knowledge of Excel, Word, ArcGIS Pro, Access, and GPS use.

Preferred Courses (any of the following)

- Cal Poly Humboldt
 - FOR 130: Dendrology
 - FOR 131: Forest Ecology
 - FOR 210: Forest Measurement and Biometry
- FNR 51: Dendrology
- FNR 5: Forest Ecology and Management
- FNR 54: Introduction to Natural Resource Inventory Techniques (already on your list)
- FNR 54: Introduction to Natural Resource Inventory Techniques
- College of the Redwoods

Redwoods Rising Apprentice II

Position Objectives

- Work with new Redwoods Rising Apprentices in their respective disciplines to meet needs for knowledgeable and experienced work during the summer 2025 operating season. Apprentice II positions will work with crews of new apprentices and lend their prior knowledge to increasing efficiency of apprentice work. Apprentice IIs will gain progressive experience working with Parks staff and taking on increased responsibilities.

Apprentice Duties and Responsibilities

- Assist Project Leads in training new apprentices in field safety and work protocols for respective projects
- Provide day-to-day assistance for apprentice crews – answer questions, teach methods, and support problem-solving
- Coordinate closely with Project Leads and League staffers on logistics, team needs, and scheduling

Skills and Qualifications

- Desired:
 - o Experience working in a team in a leadership role
 - o Willingness to work in the same discipline as your prior Apprenticeship role; and candidates may apply for an Apprentice II position that differs from the prior Apprenticeship
 - o Strong knowledge of the Redwoods Rising organizational structure as it relates to the Apprenticeship program
 - o Established relationships with Project Leads and other Redwoods Rising staff
 - o Knowledge of data collection and management practices employed by Redwood National and State Parks
- Required:
 - o Prior employment as a Redwoods Rising Apprentice
 - o At least one season of experience working in harsh terrain in variable weather conditions
 - o Demonstrated ability to work well with others on interdisciplinary teams and cross-train others
 - o Willingness to take initiative on problem-solving, interpersonal conflicts, aother issues that arise in the field
 - o Strong knowledge and understanding of the work protocols, best practices, and organizational structures of your previous Apprentice role
 - o Must be a current student at CPHor CR, or graduating in May 2025.
 - o Must possess a valid driver's license and DD certification by May 2025.

Specific requirements for each discipline can be found in the job announcements for standard 2025 Redwoods Rising Apprentice positions (above).