



Audubon Canyon Ranch

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Job Title: Prescribed Fire Apprentice

Date: October 2023

Job Description:

Audubon Canyon Ranch's Prescribed Fire Apprentice is an integral part of a team of highly motivated and committed employees who work closely together and with private landowners, government agencies, other organizations, and the community to bring “good fire” to the landscape in service of ecological health and community safety. The Prescribed Fire Apprentice will operate as a member of a five-person Apprentice Prescribed Fire Squad, one of two squads to form a Prescribed Fire Crew, working under the supervision and leadership of a Prescribed Fire Squad Lead. The Apprentice position is a full-time salaried position with a term of 11 months from mid-January through mid-December 2024.

Prescribed Fire Apprentices will prepare and implement prescribed burn projects throughout the greater North Bay Area and beyond. The crew will conduct ecological monitoring to inform adaptive management and participate in professional development courses and workshops, with occasional assignments outside the area to support growth as a student of fire.

Responsibilities:

- Participate in prescribed fire operations, including the preparation, implementation, holding, and monitoring of prescribed burns. This includes pre-burn monitoring, understory thinning and fireline preparation work, ignitions and holding of prescribed fire, mop-up, and patrol of prescribed burns, and burn reporting.
- Operate power tools with training on proper and safe use.
- Prioritize and maintain positive, inclusive, and respectful interpersonal dynamics, even in challenging working conditions.
- Successfully complete a series of fireline courses for professional development including but not limited to Basic Wildland Firefighter (S-130), FFT1/Advanced Firefighter (S-131), Wildland Chainsaws (S-212), Ignitions Operations (S-219), Followership to Leadership (L-280), Portable Pumps and Water Use (S-211).
- Attend and actively participate in training covering fire ecology, monitoring, prescribed burn planning, smoke management and permitting, CAL FIRE permit processes, burn unit map making, meteorology and fire, etc.
- Participate in pre- and post-burn ecological and fire effects monitoring.
- Actively engage in and participate in After Action Reviews and sand table exercises.
- Train and build ability to draft burn plans, produce burn unit maps, and obtain necessary permits and approvals related to prescribed burning.
- Maintain gear, equipment, and vehicles in a clean, functional, and orderly fashion.
- Participates in team meetings, retreats, initiatives, committees, and events as appropriate.
- Maintain minimum physical fitness requirements (below) and actively participate in regularly

<p>scheduled crew physical training activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other duties as assigned 			
<p>Job Location:</p>	<p>Based out of Fire Forward HQ in Petaluma, the job will include field work in Sonoma and Marin counties and beyond with occasional out of state assignments; travel is required.</p>	<p>Supervisor:</p>	<p>Prescribed Fire Squad Lead</p>
<p>Working Conditions:</p>	<p>This position includes outdoor and indoor work in all weather conditions and many types of terrain. Variable hours and high-intensity work on/around wildland fire and direct exposure to heat, smoke, and high temperatures.</p>	<p>Supervises:</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>Degree/Years of Experience:</p>	<p>No prior experience required. Familiarity and/or experience working and/or recreating outdoors preferred.</p> <p>Proof of successful completion of the Arduous Pack Test required by date of interview, if selected*</p> <p>Proof of five online courses required prior to start date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>IS-100.C Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS 100</u> • <u>IS-700.b Introduction to National Incident Management System</u> • <u>L-180, Human Factors in the Wildland Fire Service</u> • <u>S-130 Firefighter Training</u> • <u>S-190 Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior</u> <p>NOTE: These courses are free and available online.</p>	<p>Other:</p>	<p>Variable hours worked across seasons; optional participation in partner wildfire/TREX training assignments.</p> <p>Personal protective equipment, gear, and stipend for boots will be provided.</p>

Employment Status:	Full-time, hourly, non-exempt term position with compulsory paid overtime; mid-January to mid-December 2024		
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Required Skills and Qualifications:

- Ability to maintain positive attitude and respectful, inclusive disposition with diverse colleagues and partners even in challenging working conditions
- Ability to exercise sound judgment, employ proper safety measures, and show appropriate levels of problem-solving
- Superior and consistent attention to detail with commitment to continuous improvement
- Ability to learn new skills as directed
- Demonstrated commitment to values and mission of Fire Forward and Audubon Canyon Ranch
- Valid California driver’s license and good driving record

Additional Preferred Qualifications:

- Familiarity with California ecosystems
- Experience with arduous physical labor or recreation
- Bilingual Spanish and English

Essential Physical Requirements:

The Prescribed Fire Apprentice must be able to maintain a high level of physical fitness. Demonstrated ability to consistently and successfully pass the arduous pack test is a requirement of the position and the Apprentice should, at minimum, strive meet or exceed the additional fitness standards expected of Wildland Fire Module personnel (1.5 mile run in a time of 11:00 min or less; 45 sit-ups in 60 seconds; 25 pushups in 60 seconds; 7 pull-ups in 60 seconds). The Prescribed Fire Apprentice must be capable of frequent and repetitive use of hands, in addition to vision, hearing, speech and language processes.

*Proof of completion of arduous pack test must be submitted by time of interview, if selected. If one has not been completed, please contact claire.mcmurtry@egret.org.