

POSITION TITLE: Naturalist

TIME COMMITMENT: Full-time/seasonal; May 29, 2017 – September 17, 2017

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Sawtooth Interpretive & Historical Association (SA)

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION'S MISSION: The Sawtooth Association's mission is to protect and advance the natural and cultural history of Idaho's Sawtooth – Salmon River Country through preservation and education. SA is a non-profit 501(c)(3) association.

LOCATION: Volunteering in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area (NRA) in Stanley, Idaho offers a great opportunity for someone seeking a summer experience in a unique and spectacular setting. The Sawtooth NRA encompasses 756,000 acres in the "Heart of Idaho" where rugged peaks, alpine lakes, free running streams, and breath-taking scenery abound. This stunning landscape inspires quiet introspection and observation as well as offers unlimited opportunities for hiking, fishing, mountain biking, camping, boating, and many other recreational activities.

POSITION SUMMARY: Naturalists provide interpretive services, including Junior Ranger programs, nature walks, patio talks, discovery stations, and evening programs to visitors of all ages to the Sawtooth National Recreation Area. They create interpretive displays and answer visitor questions from behind the desk at the Redfish Visitor Center and the Stanley Museum. Naturalists coordinate one SA special event. Most often, naturalists are the faces representing the Sawtooth National Recreation Area and perhaps the only "staff" visitors come in contact with.

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

- * Research, develop, and present specialized interpretive programs relevant to the visiting public of the Sawtooth NRA, including but not limited to guided walks, Junior Ranger activities, discovery stations, patio talks, boat tours, and evening programs. Locations may include the Redfish Center, Stanley Lake, Idaho Rocky Mountain Ranch, the Stanley Museum, or other venues. Assess and modify programs as necessary.
- * Document and package the programs so that others, including volunteers, can present them as well.
- * Observe peer programs and provide feedback.
- * Meet with the lead naturalist monthly to review programs.
- * Research and create interpretive exhibits to be displayed at the Redfish Center or the Stanley Museum.
- * Provide information about the area and trip planning assistance at the Redfish Center and Stanley Museum.
- * Assist with sales of SA books and related items at the Redfish Center and Stanley Museum.
- * Coordinate one SA event (assigned at beginning of season). Strategic "blueprints" for each event are available.

- * Advertise for SA events (through creating and posting fliers, social media, and word-of-mouth).
- * Participate in SA community events focused on providing education on natural and cultural resources and environmental awareness.
- * Attend and participate in training during sessions/seminars.
- * Attend Forum & Lecture Series each Friday evening.
- * Participate in outreach to develop and maintain partnerships.
- * Complete SA paperwork (time sheets, program number records, etc).
- * Participate in daily, weekly, and seasonal cleaning/maintenance procedures to keep everything in working order. This includes seasonal opening and closing duties.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- * Have an enthusiastic, friendly, people-oriented personality.
- * Be resourceful, reflective, and self-motivated in a work environment.
- * Have the ability to work effectively alone as well as with others.
- * Demonstrate good communication skills, both orally and in writing. Must be comfortable with public speaking.
- * Have basic knowledge of interpretive techniques.
- * Hold a degree in or at minimum be a college junior or senior pursuing studies in natural or cultural resources, interpretation, education, history, environmental sciences, or related fields.
- * Possess valid state driver's license; have access to a personal vehicle.
- * Knowledge of Microsoft Office and social media or willingness to learn.
- * Be willing to work some evenings and weekends.
- * Be comfortable living and working in a remote location.
- * Have a commitment to the mission of the Sawtooth Association!

SUPERVISION AND MENTORING: While the naturalist is working at the various visitor facilities, he/she will be supervised/trained in specific site protocols by the Redfish Center Lead Naturalist or Stanley Museum docent. The SA executive director and lead naturalist will ensure adequate training is obtained. The SA lead naturalist will provide feedback on interpretive programs/displays throughout the summer. The SA executive director and lead naturalist will meet with naturalists monthly to ensure professional development.

TRAINING: The Sawtooth Association will provide training for the naturalist regarding interpretation, natural & cultural history of the Sawtooth NRA, and SA's mission, partners, and policies. The Forest Service will include the naturalists in their annual seasonal employee orientation (inclusive of safety, community, policy issues, etc.).

TYPICAL WEEKLY WORK SCHEDULE (40 HOURS):

- * 4 ½ days – Interpretation and Desk Time – alternate between presenting interpretive programs at various locations to audiences throughout the Sawtooth National Recreation Area and providing information about the area to visitors at the Redfish Center and/or Stanley Museum. Some days will focus more on interpretation, depending on the 2017 program schedule.
- * ½ day – Prep Time – visit and study at different locations within the SNRA to encourage area familiarity, create or modify interpretive programs, accomplish tasks related to coordinating SA event.
- * 2 days off (these two days will be scheduled together but may not be Saturday & Sunday (i.e. days off may be Monday & Tuesday or Friday & Saturday, etc.).
- * A half-hour lunch is taken each day.

PER DIEM/BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- * \$850/month stipend is provided.
- * Housing is provided free of charge at the Stanley Ranger Station employee compound or the Sawtooth Valley Work Center.
- * Personal vehicle mileage is reimbursed (at \$0.48/mile) for project work (NOT for traveling to and from work).
- * SIHA polo shirts, jacket, and name tag will be provided.
- * Supplies and project materials are provided.
- * Weekly professional development lectures.
- * Feedback regarding interpretive development.
- * 20% discount on all SA bookstore items.
- * A beautiful location for a seasonal position!

TO APPLY: Email cover letter, resume, and contact information for 3 references to Sarah Cawley, Executive Director, at scawley@discoversawtooth.org.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 10, 2017