



## Position Description Sierra Nevada AmeriCorps Partnership

<b>American Forests</b>	
<b>Position Title:</b>	<b>Type:</b>
<i>American Forests Seed Need and Inventory Specialist</i>	X Full Term

**Organizational Background:**

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American Forests is a national non-profit organization committed to creating healthy and resilient forests from cities to wilderness, that deliver essential benefits for climate, people, water, and wildlife. We advance our mission through forestry innovation, place-based partnerships to plant and restore forests, and movement building. We envision a world in which the significant environmental, societal and economic benefits of forests are fully realized and equitably available to all people. Established in 1875, American Forests is the oldest national non-profit conservation organization in the U.S. working to restore urban forests and forested landscapes.

American Forests is proud to be a diverse, equitable, inclusive, and accessible (DEIA) workplace. These are our shared values. We welcome individuals who bring a variety of backgrounds and experiences to be a part of our team to help make a difference individually and collectively as we work toward achieving our mission. We are committed to fostering an environment that is welcoming and respectful and provides opportunities for advancement and professional growth for every team member.

We hope you find a future with us.

**Number of Member Positions at this Site:** 1 Half Term SNAP

**Site Supervisor’s Name(s) and Title(s):** Shelley Villalobos, Manager, California Reforestation Pipeline Cooperative

**Position Description:**

In recent years, California forests have been devastated by historical mega-fires, and burned landscapes are at risk of a full-type conversion. The Governor's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force Working Group has identified a reforestation opportunity of ~1.5 million acres across the state. Currently, California state and federal seed banks do not have enough seeds to meet this need. To restore forest resilience in these areas at a meaningful pace and scale, cone collection must rapidly increase. American Forests is working to do so on private and public lands through collaboration with the United States Forest Service Region 5 (USFS R5) and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE) through the Reforestation Pipeline Partnership (RPP) and the development of the California Cone Corps.

The USFS Placerville Nursery CA Cone Corps Aide (Cone Corps) will directly contribute to an increase in cone monitoring and collection. The Cone Corps will receive hands-on experience in the field of reforestation with guidance from industry experts. Additionally, they will contribute to American Forests and USFS Placerville Nursery efforts through assistance in administering seed collection contracts and evaluating cone crops. They may also assist American Forests USFS Placerville Nursery team members' project management by providing feedback on their project's successes and challenges. Further, they will have opportunities for their own professional development while helping to build the California Cone Corps program.

This position is a unique opportunity to be a part of a high-level reforestation project and contribute directly to the needs of California's forest ecosystems, including post-fire recovery. It is a great chance to build a career in forestry and/or natural resources. The skills that will be gained through this position are in high demand.

**Location & Working Conditions:**

The Cone Corps position will be based in Camino, California at the USFS Placerville Nursery. They will be expected to work in person, with shifts varying depending on the season. Some weekend shifts may be required. The Cone Corps may be offered the option to live in USFS provided housing and will be required to pay monthly rent for the provided housing.

Office work will be expected of the Cone Corps including recordkeeping, attending meetings, writing reports, and emailing. Most days will be spent in the field where the Cone Corps will be expected to stand, walk, or sit for long periods of time. The work does require lifting materials which may weigh up to 40 lbs. At times, responsibilities may take place in a field setting. The field setting includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. Varying terrain and dense vegetation (possible exposure to wildlife, ticks, poison oak, and mosquitos), hot, wet, and cold conditions
2. Severely burned landscapes with standing dead trees and little/no shade coverage

Reforestation efforts in California have expanded in recent years, in part due to the efforts of American Forests. This rapid growth has led to an increase in job opportunities across the sector. While employment is not guaranteed upon completion of the term, skills gained will be of value to the reforestation industry and to American Forests as our organization continues to grow.

**Site-Specific Training Provided:**

The Cone Corps will develop a professional development plan that aligns with their goals and supports their success with American Forests. The professional development plan will be developed with the site supervisor in conjunction with the American Forests California Cone Corps Manager.

Additionally, the Cone Corps will receive hands-on experience and training in determining seed maturity, insect identification, seed/cone recordkeeping, seed testing, contract administration, as well as safety and inventory procedures.

**Specific Responsibilities:**

Nursery Operations (60%)

- Support cone and/or seed processing, seedling handling, and other assorted nursery operations and maintenance tasks as needed and assigned by the USFS Placerville Nursery manager.
- Contribute to team efforts, including the Cone Corps Lead’s efforts to increase volunteers, nursery tours and interns and support their efforts as needed.

Data Sorting and Entry (15%)

- Transferring information from hard paper copies of seedlot information ('cone handler's checklist') into an excel spreadsheet to update and fill gaps in the seed bank inventory.
- Compiling data entry for 2018 and prior 10-15 years.
- Communicating their findings and analysis with the U.S. Forest Service Placerville Nursery manager and American Forests California Reforestation Pipeline Cooperative manager.

Cone Monitoring (15%)

Monitoring for conifer cone crops on USFS lands, reporting data on viable crops, and supporting the facilitation of a cone collection.

Project Administration (10%)

In addition, the Cone Corps will be responsible for supporting Reforestation Pipeline Partnership events, engaging with other colleagues, and supporting American Forests’ mission as needed.

Benefits:

- Monthly stipend of \$2,318.18 per month
- Standard health, dental and vision insurance
- AmeriCorps members that successfully complete a full time service term will earn an education award of \$10,000
- Up to 340 hours of technical, ecological, and skills-development training
- \$500 Professional Development Stipend
- Student loan forbearance during service term if Member qualifies.
- Ca Subsidized Childcare stipend available.

WORK HOURS		
8-hour days	10-hour days	10+ hour days
90%	10%	0%

<b>Housing Offered through Site:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<b>Vehicle provided for Placement Site work:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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SNAP 2022-23 Position Description

TYPE OF WORK							
<b>Field Work</b> <i>(field surveys, planting, invasive pulls, maintenance, etc.)</i>	<b>Office Work</b> <i>(lab analysis, data entry, GIS, writing, etc.)</i>	<b>Travel</b> <i>(travel to field work and project Sites)</i>	<b>Restoration and Assessment</b> <i>(water quality monitoring, habitat restoration, fish surveys, etc.)</i>	<b>Education</b> <i>(teaching, citizen science, etc.)</i>	<b>Volunteer Recruitment &amp; Management</b>	<b>Member Training</b> <i>(Site-specific training, conferences, and development opportunities)</i>	<b>Other</b> <i>(gear and equipment maintenance, outreach, etc.)</i>
15%	75%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%	0%