



# Wilderness Fellow Position Description

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



**Position Title:** Wilderness Fellow ([www.thesca.org](http://www.thesca.org), Position #10057)

**Department & Agency:** Department of the Interior, National Park Service

**Position Description:** The National Park Service (NPS) is seeking to fill up to three 'Wilderness Fellow' positions. Each Wilderness Fellow will work to directly support the goals of Together Wild, a collaborative wilderness stewardship planning initiative currently underway in the NPS. Major duties include, but are not limited to, developing wilderness character assessments, developing inventory and monitoring strategies, and other duties to support wilderness stewardship planning. Wilderness Fellows must be able to adapt to new environments and situations, communicate effectively both orally and in writing, and be ready to make an immediate impact on the wilderness stewardship planning process. Wilderness Fellows may have the opportunity to convert to a STEP/SCEP position upon successful completion of the fellowship, contingent on funding.

**Project Summary:** Together Wild is a strategy developed by the Wilderness Stewardship Division of the NPS Washington Office to provide parks with the assistance and support needed to develop and implement wilderness stewardship plans. The process is explicitly collaborative and brings together regional offices, parks, scientists, and wilderness specialists to help parks complete wilderness stewardship plans. The long-term goal of Together Wild is to provide parks with a viable and defensible Wilderness Stewardship Plan. Wilderness Stewardship Plans will provide more effective management of wilderness resources, streamline the compliance and review process, and ultimately protect wilderness character.

### **Potential Primary Duties:**

- Develop and refine a wilderness character assessment of the area in question based upon the four primary wilderness qualities: untrammeled, natural, undeveloped, and solitude/primitive and unconfined recreation
- Create a public outreach plan to meet environmental compliance requirements
- Develop inventory and monitoring strategies for a suite of indicators directly related to the wilderness character of the area in question
- Explore new and innovative technologies for increasing public involvement in the wilderness stewardship planning process (facebook, twitter, etc.)
- Assist the wilderness stewardship planning point person with other duties directly related to the wilderness stewardship planning process

### **Desired Skills:**

- Interest in wilderness management, national parks, and park management
- Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing
- Research skills and attention to detail
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively on projects
- GIS
- Knowledge of social media outreach techniques (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)

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**Requirements:** U.S. Citizen and willingness to undergo a required criminal history background check

**Training Provided:** Orientation and training sessions covering the National Park Service Wilderness Stewardship Planning Process and Keeping it Wild: An Interagency Strategy to Monitor Trends in Wilderness Character across the National Wilderness Preservation System.

**Educational Opportunities:** Incumbent works with NPS unit wilderness staff members, regional and Washington Office NPS staff, external scientists, the public, and others involved in NPS wilderness stewardship planning. Excellent opportunity for hands-on on-the-ground practical experience with wilderness stewardship planning.

**Work Dates:** Six to 12 month fellowships depending on qualifications and commitment. Fellowships start approximately 5/15/2010. Start dates may be flexible within 1-2 weeks.

**Field of Study/Coursework:** Field of study or coursework in one or more of the following subject areas desired: Wilderness Management, Protected Area/Natural Resource Management, Recreation Resource Management, Conservation Social Science, Environmental Policy, Natural, Biological, and/or Physical Sciences.

**Site Description:** Wilderness Fellows work within one or more TBD National Park Service wilderness units. Wilderness is a special portion of the National Park System that American citizens and the U.S. Congress have jointly declared will be kept as wild and natural as possible. National Park Service wilderness areas represent some of the most pristine and least impacted areas in the U.S.

**Housing:** Housing during orientation/training session provided. Housing during fellowship will be provided on-site by participating NPS unit(s).

**Transportation:** Personal vehicle recommended. Wilderness Fellow provides transportation to and from work location and may service multiple NPS wilderness units over duration of fellowship. Experience has shown that isolated conditions may result in a negative experience for SCA interns with no transportation.

**Closing Date:**

Priority deadline is 3/1/2010.

**For additional information, please contact:**

Wade Vagias, Ph.D.  
Wilderness Stewardship Division  
1201 Eye Street, NW, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20005  
Wade\_Vagias@nps.gov  
(202) 513-7124