

# San Juan Wilderness Stewardship Crew

The San Juan Mountains Association (SJMA) wilderness crew members work in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service to monitor wilderness characteristics, conduct trail work, and educate wilderness visitors on “leave no trace” practices throughout the San Juan and Rio Grande National Forests.

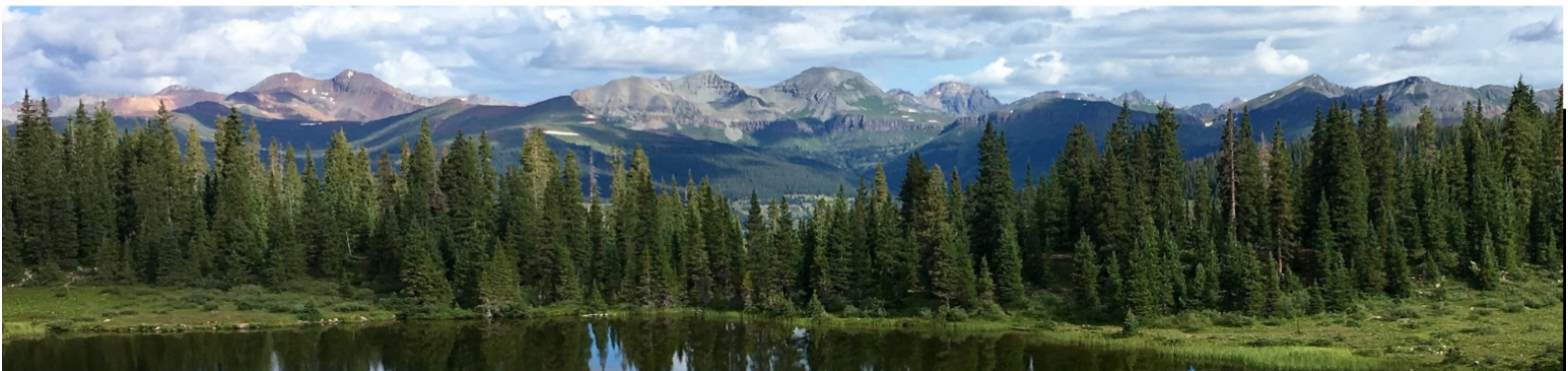
Field Office: Durango, CO

Project locations: San Juan and Rio Grande National Forest wilderness

Season: Late-May through September

## **Position Summary**

SJMA's backcountry crew members will operate in remote wilderness locations (often at high elevation) to perform wilderness monitoring, make public contacts, conduct routine trail maintenance, clear trails of downed trees, and help implement volunteer stewardship projects. The San Juan Stewardship Crew will conduct a variety of backcountry wilderness projects under the supervision of a Forest Service crew leader. The crew will be split into teams of 2-4 as necessary to help provide a backcountry presence and conduct a variety of wilderness stewardship activities. Primary duties will focus on public outreach, trail work, and wilderness characteristic monitoring. Rangers will receive a broad spectrum of relevant training and will end the season with a wide range of wilderness stewardship experience. This is a life-changing experience for the right applicant who will make an immediate impact on the land and build lifelong memories in some of Colorado's most spectacular wilderness landscapes.



# San Juan Mountains Association

## **Work Environment**

Work is performed primarily in the field, often in remote locations for multiple days at a time. Work will be full time (40 hours/week) during the field season (Late May – Labor Day) and will generally follow a four-days on, three-days off work schedule. During that time, overnight travel and backpacking is mandatory to complete all projects. There may be a couple eight-day hitches for more remote project locations. Light office duties will be performed at assigned work locations. Safety equipment is required and will be provided in accordance with applicable USFS job hazard analyses. Field work includes risk of injury from falls, strains, and insect bites, and includes exposure to inclement weather.

## **Summary of Essential Job Functions**

- Must be able to carry up to 50 lbs. and hike 10-15 miles per day using GPS navigation.
- Travel, backpack, and work in remote backcountry settings during 4 to 8 day trips
- Utilize safe and low-impact backcountry travel skills
- Maintain organized and complete records
- Operate a data collection device to collect consistent and accurate natural resource data
- Trailwork, tree clearing using crosscut saws, recording trail conditions
- Public contact, visitor services, and wilderness education
- Maintain Positive attitude while living and working in inclement weather at high elevation(8,000-13,000 ft)

## **Knowledge/Abilities**

- Demonstrated outdoor leadership experience
- Knowledge of wilderness principles, concepts, policies, and objectives
- Extensive backpacking, camping, hiking experience
- Ability to work under arduous physical conditions
- Knowledge of ArcGIS or other mapping software and data analysis a plus
- Valid state-issued Driver's License!
- Wilderness First Aid or Responder certification prior to starting position
- Positive attitude!