



Parks California

Resource Stewardship Program Manager

ORGANIZATION BACKGROUND

Parks California is an ambitious new organization working to ensure that our state’s parks thrive. From redwood groves and desert springs to lighthouses and ghost towns, we’re working with our partners to make California parks more welcoming, accessible, and relevant to all visitors.

Managing these assets for nearly 40 million residents and millions more annual visitors takes collective work. Park managers cannot do it alone. Parks California harnesses skills and resources—and California’s renowned ingenuity—to help our state, regional, and local parks thrive and evolve.

Formed after extensive consultation with hundreds of stakeholders, park executives, and philanthropic leaders, Parks California stimulates and supports innovative public-private partnerships that raise the visibility of California’s parks and their partners, inspire passionate support for public lands, and set trends for the future of parks. Parks California attracts new public and private funding and provides expertise and entrepreneurial approaches to high-priority projects and programs developed and implemented in collaboration with the Department of Parks and Recreation and other park districts across the state. Parks California coalesces a diverse set of partners to make this vision a reality. Parks California is committed to supporting and promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion throughout the organization and its programs.

POSITION OVERVIEW

To ensure California’s natural treasures are managed and protected today and for future generations, the Resource Stewardship Program Manager will lead the development of an emerging conservation program that works in collaboration with California State Parks’ Natural Resources division and engages partners at a landscape level to make natural places more resilient for future generations. Joining together with government, industry, and nonprofit organizations, we will foster the next generation of stewards to find and implement sustainable climate adaptation solutions.

The Resource Stewardship Program Manager is a new position that allows for innovative thinking and personal development. They will work closely with the Vice President of Programs, California State Parks staff and statewide partners to lead Parks California's resource stewardship efforts across the state. The ideal candidate would be passionate about state parks, thrive in a fast-paced environment and be skilled at driving innovation through collaborative leadership and partnerships.

The Resource Stewardship Program Manager is a full-time, exempt position and reports to the Vice President of Programs. This position's preferred location is in either San Francisco, CA or Sacramento, CA with regular travel throughout the state. The position is grant funded for a period of three years, with the opportunity for future extension.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Program Management

- Serve as a natural resources program and planning subject matter expert within Parks California. Make recommendations to the Executive Leadership team and regularly assist with important decision-making processes related to Parks California's efforts.
- Build, manage and facilitate Parks California's efforts, relationships, and reputation within the resource stewardship community.
- Identify key roles that Parks California can play to advance the success of regional Stewardship Collaboratives and the California Landscape Stewardship Network.
- Assist with grant research, writing, and reporting efforts to grow capacity of the program and Parks California as a whole.
- Draft and edit agency project agreements, contracts, and grant agreements from predefined templates.

Project Implementation

- Manage natural resource partnerships with California State Parks and the California Landscape Stewardship Network and bridge relationships between policy experts and broader stewardship coalitions.
- Support the planning of statewide conferences and training that advance peer exchange, statewide coordination, and systems design.
- Manage projects and contracts that drive innovation and the development of systems and tools that support resource protection within California State Parks.
- Assess need and lead the design of partnership and team-based training that builds California State Parks' capacity to meet its priority resource stewardship and conservation program goals.

DESIRED EXPERIENCE AND COMPETENCIES

- Strong verbal and written communication skills, including the ability to produce high quality written reports and presentations.
- Demonstrated ability to translate scientific research and principles into content that is relevant to the general public.
- Advanced partnership skills demonstrated by an ability to collaborate with both technical and non-technical partners, build consensus across a diverse set of stakeholders and work towards collective impact.
- Strong facilitation skills required, experience developing and providing training is preferred.
- Robust project management skills, including managing contracts and planning events.
- Excellent organizational skills and an ability to work concurrently on multiple projects and manage deadlines independently.
- Strong working knowledge of California land management agencies and regional ecosystems.
- Working knowledge of public land natural resources management and planning, including such issues as invasive species, wildlife, and rare species management, forest stewardship and wildfire planning, ecosystem monitoring, and climate adaptation planning.
- Proficient in MS Word, Powerpoint, and Excel and virtual communication/productivity tools.

Other Qualifications:

- B.A./B.S. with focus in biological or environmental science, natural resource management, planning, landscape architecture, or closely related field.
- At least five (5) years of progressively responsible experience in natural resource stewardship, planning, management or program development.
- Ability and willingness to travel periodically.

COMPENSATION

A competitive compensation package, including a comprehensive benefits package, will be offered based on experience.

TO APPLY

Interested candidates should apply via email by sending a cover letter describing their qualifications that match the position criteria and what they will bring to the role, along with a resume, to resume@parksocalifornia.org with the subject line "Parks California, Resource Stewardship Program Manager Search."

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

More information on Parks California can be found at <https://parksocalifornia.org>.

Parks California is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We believe that our overall effectiveness is enhanced when equity and inclusiveness are practiced and protected throughout our organizational governance, culture, and staffing. We are committed to leadership in and serving as a catalyst for promoting equity and inclusion in park communities.