



Alpine Watershed Group

Protecting the Headwaters of the California Alps

Job Announcement: Forest Health Coordinator

Alpine Watershed Group (AWG) seeks a Forest Health Coordinator to help manage and implement AWG's restoration, monitoring, and community outreach programs related to forest health and resilience and post-fire restoration. The Forest Health Coordinator works out of the AWG office in Woodfords, California.

Organization Description

AWG's mission is to protect, conserve, and restore the watersheds of Alpine County by promoting sustainable community and science-based collaborative solutions. AWG provides leadership and facilitates collaboration among diverse stakeholders from throughout the watersheds to identify and implement monitoring, assessment, planning, and restoration projects. AWG engages volunteers as stewards through water quality monitoring and watershed restoration activities. Since the Tamarack Fire in 2021, AWG's collaboration, monitoring, and restoration efforts have expanded to include post-fire recovery as well as helping to expand Alpine County's capacity to improve forest health and resilience. Alpine County provides an ideal rural setting for watershed stewardship and preservation, located at the headwaters of five major rivers of California and Nevada. In close proximity to Lake Tahoe and the Carson Valley, the region offers a beautiful place to work and live.

Position Description

The Forest Health Coordinator helps to manage and implement AWG's post-fire monitoring and restoration activities, including stakeholder engagement, coordination of volunteers, collaboration with partner agencies, planning forest health specific watershed activities, and reporting for both monitoring and grants. The Forest Health Coordinator assists with fundraising, including grant writing for forest health and resilience projects. In our small office environment, the Forest Health Coordinator works closely with the Headwaters Coordinator to ensure work in all program areas is completed, and supports AWG's two California Climate Action Corps Fellows through project leadership. The Forest Health Coordinator reports to the Executive Director.

Responsibilities

Forest Health and Resilience Planning

- Coordinate the involvement of community members and local/regional natural resource partners in forest health and resilience planning, post-fire and wildfire mitigation monitoring, post-fire restoration, project prioritization, and project implementation
- Provide administrative support for the newly-established Forest Health Community Working Group (FHCWG) meetings and activities, including public meetings and field tours
- Assist Alpine County Wildfire Project Coordinator with development and ongoing maintenance of GIS layers in Alpine County's ArcGIS Online to capture projects completed, in progress, and forecasted
- Work with Alpine County Wildfire Project Coordinator to use GIS layers to assess landscape conditions, specifically identifying gaps, targets, and treatments to help FHCWG partners develop projects
- Work collaboratively to develop instruments and protocols for project monitoring
- Assist with contracting and coordination with consultants
- Meet with private landowners to assess property and discuss possible treatments
- Participate in partner meetings relating to forest health and resilience planning, post-fire recovery, monitoring, and restoration
- Represent AWG at regional and statewide watershed functions
- Help coordinate California Climate Corps Action Fellows (AmeriCorps Members) in program planning and project development

Post-fire Restoration

- Coordinate with agency partners and plan for the logistical needs of restoration projects in burned areas
- Assist with planning and implementation of volunteer workdays, including invasive plant removal, tree planting, and tree maintenance

Watershed Monitoring

- Help to implement AWG's annual monitoring plan
- Lead post-fire related monitoring, assist with water quality sampling, and help maintain equipment and lab supplies
- Help input, analyze, and report on collected data, including vegetation, water quality monitoring, and photo monitoring data
- Help implement quality assurance/control of monitoring data and maintenance of data organization/sharing

Volunteer Program

- Help recruit, train, and coordinate volunteers for involvement in post-fire monitoring and restoration work
- Assist with the planning and coordination of volunteer water quality sampling events

Outreach & Marketing

- Assist with planning and leading education activities and outreach events related to forest health and resilience, including watershed group meetings and FHCWG events
- Develop publicity materials as needed, including contributions to monthly newsletter and event flyers
- Assist with the maintenance of web outreach tools (e.g., website, social media, videos, StoryMaps)

Fundraising & Administration

- Assist with grant and proposal writing for projects within scope of responsibility
- Assist with various other fundraising activities such as donation requests and sponsorships
- Maintain active program records and develop grant reports
- Assist with meeting planning, document development, and office maintenance

Qualifications

- BS or BA in environmental science, natural resource management, fire ecology, or a related field
- Coursework and field experience in botany or biology; ability to use keys for plant identification
- Experience with watershed restoration, vegetation monitoring, and data analysis
- Experience with fire recovery methods, fuels management, and forest health and resilience
- Demonstrated ability to facilitate meetings and manage groups
- Demonstrated ability to train, involve, and support volunteers
- Ability to both work independently and to work collaboratively as a team member
- Ability to manage multiple projects
- Proficient computer skills — word processing, database, research, and GIS
- Strong verbal and written communication skills

Requirements

- Valid driver's license and reliable transportation, including in the winter snow season
- Ability to conduct physically demanding field work at remote locations, lift 50 pounds, and sit at a desk for extended periods of time when necessary

Compensation, Benefits, and Schedule

This position is full-time. The candidate must be able to work occasional weeknights and weekends. The rate of pay is \$24-\$26/hour, depending on experience. Benefits include \$200/month toward health insurance premium, sick leave, vacation time, and 11 holidays.

Application

Email resume and cover letter to Executive Director Kimra McAfee at awg.kimra@gmail.com by February 26. Application process may remain open until position has been filled.