

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT



TRACS Surveyor

Full-time, seasonal position available

Announcement Date: December 5, 2022

Application Deadline: Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until positions have been filled. Interviews of well-qualified applicants are anticipated to begin in late January/early February 2023. The application will close on February 17th and a decision will be made shortly thereafter.

Job Location: The RMFI office is located in Colorado Springs, Colorado. RMFI project sites are located primarily in the Pikes Peak Region.

The Rocky Mountain Field Institute (RMFI) is a nonprofit environmental stewardship organization working to protect and conserve public lands in Southern Colorado through volunteer-based trail and restoration projects, environmental education, and restoration research. For more information, please visit www.rmfi.org.

Do you love working outside? This is an exciting opportunity to join the RMFI team. This position will work in some of the Pikes Peak Region's most outstanding natural areas. The primary responsibility of the TRACS Surveyor is implementing RMFI's Trail Assessment and Condition Survey (TRACS) program. This position will also assist with leading community volunteers, youth corps crews, and students in completing ecological protection and restoration projects when not completing TRACS programming.

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS AND VACCINATION MANDATE:

Due to the close working conditions and interactions of our staff, volunteers, and partners, RMFI requires all staff members to demonstrate proof of receiving a COVID-19 vaccination as a condition of their employment. Employees will need to be fully vaccinated before March 1, 2023. Employees will be considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks after they have received the requisite number of doses of COVID-19 vaccine approved or authorized for use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration or use by the World Health Organization. For vaccines that require 2 doses (i.e., Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, etc.), an employee is fully vaccinated 2 weeks after the employee has received the second dose. For a single dose vaccine (i.e., Johnson and Johnson (J&J)/Janssen), an employee is fully vaccinated 2 weeks after receiving a single dose. We will require that you provide proof of vaccination or proof of medical/religious exemption.

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POSITION SUMMARY:

The TRACS Surveyor (TS) works under the supervision of the RMFI Program Director and in close coordination with U.S. Forest Service staff. The TRACS Surveyor aids in the planning and implementation of RMFI's Trail Assessment and Condition Survey (TRACS) program. The TRACS Surveyor will work independently, completing trail condition surveys on identified National Forest System (NFS) Trails on the Pike and San Isabel National Forest and Cimarron and Comanche Grasslands (PSICC), as part of the 10-Year Trail Shared Stewardship Challenge. The surveys will be completed on the U.S. Forest Service's Trail Assessment and Condition Surveys (TRACS) form. The TRACS survey is the current U.S. Forest Service corporate survey for collecting accurate information about the trail and constructed features along the trail, including key dimensional information, material type, and quantities. This survey also provides an objective evaluation of the current condition of trail and constructed features, and identifies prescription for needed tasks.

Primary duties include planning logistics required to complete TRACS surveys; implementing thorough surveys of priority trails in a timely manner; and completing detailed reports with survey metrics and photo documentation. The TRACS Surveyor will also assist with RMFI's stewardship programming (trail maintenance and restoration projects) when needed, helping ensure quality work standards, the highest degree of safety, and an enjoyable experience for all RMFI program participants.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES and RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Complete planning and implementation of RMFI's TRACS program. The TS will work independently, planning a survey schedule, arranging for all necessary logistics, and collecting accurate information about the trail and constructed features along the trail, including key dimensional information, material type, and quantities.
- Complete periodic progress reports and final reports.
- Supervise volunteers and youth corps crews in the completion of trail and restoration projects and work on those projects alongside Field Instructors and Field Coordinators.
- Serve as a member of a RMFI stewardship work crew during project days that do not include volunteers. The proportion of days with and without volunteers is variable.
- Instruct and manage volunteers, students, and other program participants in trail and restoration techniques, field safety, and project objectives.
- Assist with the management of field work days by providing project orientation to participants, properly estimating volunteer and staff requirements, completing work in a timely and efficient manner, and ensuring safety at all times.
- Assist with the management of program safety in the field by ensuring the RMFI Safety Policy and Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) is followed at all times.

- Manage tool, equipment, and food logistics in the field.
- Participate in pre-and post-project activities including briefings, evaluations, and trainings.
- Document work completed, including photos, GPS data, and detailed work logs.
- Assist in training new seasonal staff and interns.
- Assist in promoting and conducting outreach for RMFI programs.
- Assist in implementing environmental education curriculum on select programs.
- Participate in staff trainings and develop new skills and techniques as necessitated by projects.
- Provide clear, effective, and timely communication with the Program Director, Program Managers, Field Coordinators, and additional staff.

REQUIRED SKILLS and ABILITIES:

- Must be vaccinated or prove religious/medical exemption.
- Strong conservation ethic and passion for public lands stewardship.
- Must have a valid driver's license and good driving record.
- Ability to participate in vigorous physical activity for extended periods of time at altitudes up to 10,000+ feet.
- Ability to lift and move a minimum of 40 pounds.
- Current Wilderness First Aid certification required; Wilderness First Responder certification strongly desired (required for backcountry programs).
- Reliable personal vehicle for travel to/from survey locations is required. An off-highway vehicle (4x4) is preferred, but not required.
- Significant time spent alone in backcountry locations is required. Experience with solo backcountry travel is preferred.
- Must pass a pre-employment background check.

DESIRED SKILLS and ABILITIES:

Environmental stewardship/outdoor recreation

- Experience conducting trail assessments and surveys using TRACS, Survey123, or other similar technology.
- Experience with GIS, GPS, and other geospatial technologies is preferred.
- Trail building and maintenance, including strong rockwork and/or timberwork experience.
- Natural area restoration including social trail closure, erosion mitigation, post-wildland fire restoration, and invasive species control.
- Experience working with rigging equipment such as griphoists, highlines, and bear hangs.
- Experience working with mule and/or llama pack strings.
- Proficiency in traveling and living in mountainous backcountry environments.
- Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science, Natural Resource Management, Geography, or related field.
- Current S-212 Wildland Fire Chainsaw certification or equivalent certification.

Leadership

- Experience overseeing youth conservation corps, AmeriCorps, or other volunteer groups in an outdoor setting.
- Experience in environmental education, volunteer stewardship, outdoor guiding, or related industry preferred.
- Ability to work safely in sometimes-stressful conditions. Extended stays in the field of up to 18 days may be required.
- Self-starter who demonstrates the ability to take initiative, set goals, and achieve them both independently and cooperatively as a team member.
- Ability to respectfully work with a variety of volunteers and students of varying ages and abilities to effectively accomplish project goals. Excellent people skills, a sense of humor, and a positive attitude are a must!
- Ability to solve problems quickly and independently.
- Ability to prioritize and work on multiple projects simultaneously.

WORK SCHEDULE:

RMFI will hire one full-time, seasonal TRACS Surveyor for the 2023 field season to work from March through October with the possibility of work extending into November depending upon the availability of project funding. The work schedule is very dynamic; the TS will work an average of 40 hours per week, though hours can fluctuate heavily week-to-week depending on projects. The TS may work up to 70 hours per week and may spend up to 18 consecutive days in the field. The TRACS Surveyor can expect significant time working in the backcountry during the peak alpine season, from June through September. The TS will spend the majority of their time alone when working in the backcountry, so personal safety and risk assessment are crucial to the position. When not completing TRACS surveys, the TS may be assigned to assist with RMFI's other stewardship projects (trail maintenance/construction, restoration projects, volunteer programming etc.). Backcountry work will vary depending on project site and location. The bulk of shoulder season work (March to May and September to October) will primarily follow a day work schedule, during which staff will return home after each workday. The position requires extensive travel, fieldwork, and evening and weekend work. This position is field-based, though some office time is required.

WAGES and BENEFITS:

The TRACS Surveyor position is paid hourly. Pay is consistent with industry standards and will be determined based on experience, certifications and qualifications (anticipated hourly pay range is \$15-\$18/hour depending on experience). Travel with a personal vehicle is required and is reimbursed at the federal rate. For overnight programs, the TRACS Surveyor is paid a day rate (10 hours/day) and food and field supplies are provided. Benefits include paid sick leave and discounts on outdoor gear and equipment. Employees meeting certain tenure requirements are eligible to participate in RMFI's SIMPLE IRA

retirement plan, including employer contributions of up to 3% to match the employee's contributions to the plan.

TO APPLY:

1. Complete the RMFI Employment Application by visiting this [webpage](#).
2. Please email your cover letter and resume in PDF format to jobs@rmfi.org with "RMFI TRACS Surveyor_YourName" in the subject line.
3. The successful candidate will be required to complete and pass a pre-employment background check. RMFI will notify you of the steps involved in this process after an official hiring offer has been made.

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until the position is filled. Interviews of well-qualified applicants are anticipated to begin in late January/early February 2023. The application will close on February 17th and a decision will be made shortly thereafter.

The Rocky Mountain Field Institute is committed to a policy of equal treatment and opportunity in every aspect of its relations with staff members and prospective employees, and will not discriminate against applicants for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, age, disability, marital status, sex, or sexual orientation.

RMFI respectfully acknowledges that our work takes place on the traditional unceded territory of the Cheyenne, Núu-~~agha~~-təvə-pə (Ute), and Jicarilla Apache Nations, among others. We acknowledge the painful history of genocide and forced occupation of their territory, and we honor and respect the many diverse indigenous people connected to this land on which our work takes place.