

# **TRAIL OPERATIONS SUPPORT**

## **PART-TIME, MAY-OCT**

### **PONCHA SPRINGS, CO**



#### **POSITION SUMMARY**

TRAIL OPERATIONS SUPPORT is a new part-time position that will be an integral part of field operations for The Colorado Trail Foundation. This position will be based at our Poncha Springs, CO location with occasional field visits as needed. The successful candidate will work under the leadership of the Field Operations Manager to directly support CTF volunteers in the Trail Crew and the Trail Adopter programs.

In general, this position was created to assist with the behind-the-scenes aspects of doing trail work. Before volunteers head out in the field, a wide variety of supplies are needed. This role will directly help with maintaining tools, managing trail adopter tool sheds, packing and unpacking trail crew trailers, helping to maintain the Field Operations Center landscape, and also helping the Field Operations Manager with supporting volunteers.

Experience in hiking or biking on The Colorado Trail is not required of potential candidates to join our team. Beyond skills, what is most important is a passion for outdoor recreation and stewardship, a belief that experiences on The Colorado Trail are valuable and potentially life changing, and just being an all-around great human who wants to give back to the world through their professional endeavors.

#### **ABOUT THE COLORADO TRAIL FOUNDATION**

CTF is a nonprofit with the mission of building and maintaining The Colorado Trail, which stretches 567 miles between Denver and Durango. We are comprised of a team of passionate professionals, along with hundreds of volunteers and a dedicated board of directors, that consider it an honor to give our energy to a mission and a Trail that changes lives on a daily basis. CTF's home office is in downtown Golden, CO, and we have a Field Operations Center in Poncha Springs, CO.

CTF oversees the work of 700+ volunteers who devote thousands of hours each year to keep the Trail in great condition. Most of that work is accomplished by trail crews and by individuals who adopt sections of the Trail and perform annual maintenance. Individual contributions from 2,000+ donors, as well as contributions from corporations, foundations, and the U.S. Forest Service, provide the annual funding needed to sustain CTF's efforts.

Since its completion more than 35 years ago, The CT has become known as one of the premier long-distance trails in the country. It passes through some of the most spectacular scenery in the Colorado Rockies. Users traveling end-to-end encounter the high mountain lakes and towering peaks of six national forests, six wilderness areas, eight mountain ranges, and five major river systems as they climb nearly 90,000 vertical feet. The average elevation of the Trail is a whopping 10,300 feet. The

Trail shares 314 miles of its length with the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail, a Congressionally-mandated, 3,100-mile-long trail stretching from Mexico to Canada that is stewarded by our friends at the Continental Divide Trail Coalition.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Stocking and restocking storage bins for crews that include a robust spice kit for cook crews and an extensive cleaning kit.
- Light laundry to wash and dry kitchen towels for camp kitchen bins
- Landscaping around the Field Operations Center, which may include mowing, weed whacking, watering, weeding and litter pickup
- Helping to fill, clean, drain, and hookup 250-gallon drinking water trailers needed for trail crews
- Meticulously packing trailers with specific supplies needed for each trail crew
- Unpacking, cleaning, replacing and drying out gear from trailers as they return from the field
- Light repair and maintenance of equipment and notifying Field Operations Manager about buying replacement equipment for things that are not easily repairable
- Organizing and fulfilling tool and gear requests for trail adopters to pick up
- Organizing and fulfilling tool and gear requests for trail crew leaders
- Supporting Field Operations Manager with delivering and picking up supplies out in the field as needed
- Supporting Field Operations Manager with help on trail crew projects as needed with leading volunteers
- Helping to manage inventory in Trail Adopter sheds

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

Below are the preferred qualifications. All applicants with a passion for supporting our mission are encouraged to apply, even if some qualifications below are not met. We believe in finding the right person with the right heart, and some of the hard skills can be learned along the way.

- A willingness and commitment to support the CTF mission of outdoor stewardship and public engagement
- Happiness in dealing with the public, demonstrated through a welcoming, customer-oriented attitude
- Experience working as a volunteer and/or with volunteers performing trail work
- Ability to work under varying conditions
- Ability to carry heavy loads (75+ lbs.) for loading trail crew trailers
- Hand- and power-tool familiarity
- Good judgment, self-motivation, communication, and problem-solving skills
- Safe driving record and practices, subject to verification through a driver's license history check
- Trail tool and camping gear familiarity
- Experience maintaining trail tools and camping gear
- Experience with landscaping & using landscaping tools like a lawn mower & weed whacker
- Ability to work occasional weekends when needed for quick turnarounds between crews

## **POSITION DETAILS**

- **Location-** Position is based out of our Field Operations Center located in Poncha Springs
- **Compensation-** This is a part-time, seasonal position. Pay will be \$20/hr with 25 hours scheduled a week during the months of May thru October.
- **Work Schedule-** 25 hours a week schedule will vary per week based on trail crew operations with occasional weekend work required for quick turnarounds on gear and equipment. Beyond these situations, the ideal candidate will work 3-4 days a week within a flexible schedule that is planned out in advance with the Field Operations Manager.

## **HOW TO APPLY**

To apply for this position, send a cover letter and resume to Tisha McCombs, Executive Director, via email to [tisha@coloradotrail.org](mailto:tisha@coloradotrail.org). To learn more about us, visit [www.ColoradoTrail.org](http://www.ColoradoTrail.org). Applicants will be reviewed as they come in. The desired start date is around May 1, 2023.

*The Colorado Trail Foundation is an Equal Opportunity Employer and values diversity in people and ideas.*