REDWOODS RISING™

Job Announcement:
2026 Redwoods Rising Apprenticeship

Redwoods Rising

Redwoods Rising is a partnership among the National Park Service (NPS), California State Parks (CSP), and Save the Redwoods League (SRL) that integrates selective thinning, road removal, and aquatic restoration to restore 70,000 acres of second-growth redwood forest in Redwood National and State Parks (RNSP) that bear the scars of historic commercial logging from prior to the parks' establishment. Currently restoration work is taking place within the Greater Mill Creek (GMC) and Greater Prairie Creek (GPC) watersheds. Learn more about the project at www.savetheredwoods.org/project/redwoods-rising.

Redwoods Rising Apprenticeship Program

Each summer since 2018, the Redwoods Rising Apprenticeship Program has employed undergraduate students from College of the Redwoods (CR) and Cal Poly Humboldt (CPH) to boost capacity for Redwoods Rising restoration activities and provide field-based career development opportunities for the next generation of natural resource professionals currently studying in Humboldt County. Redwoods Rising Apprentices may serve for a maximum of two summers, the first as an Apprentice I and the second as an Apprentice II (terms do not have to be consecutive).

In 2026, 14 Apprentices will be selected to work alongside Redwoods Rising field staff from NPS, CSP, SRL, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), and CPH within the Redwoods Rising project areas in the following disciplines (with likely cross-disciplinary training):

- Forestry – 2 Apprentices
- Roads – 4 Apprentices
- Aquatics – 5 Apprentices
- Ecological Monitoring – 3 Apprentices

2026 Redwoods Rising Apprentices will work 40 hours (four, 10-hour shifts) per week, usually Monday–Thursday, from May 18–August 13, 2026, including a required orientation from May 18–20 and a required final presentation on August 13.

- Apprentice I position – $16.90/hour ($18.59/hour with overtime)
- Apprentice II position – $18.90/hour ($20.79/hour with overtime)

Informational Meetings (*both meetings are open to all students, and **THERE WILL BE PIZZA!***)

- Monday, February 2 – 5:00–7:30pm @ Cal Poly Humboldt NR 101
- Tuesday, February 10 – 3:15–4:25pm @ College of the Redwoods AT 127

To Apply

- Fill out an application and upload your resume (no cover letter) at www.savetheredwood.org/project/redwoods-rising/apprenticeship-program. The application opens on February 6 at 12:00am and closes on February 18 at 11:59pm. Interviews will take place between March 2–12, and job offers will be sent to selected applicants by March 15.
- If you have any questions, email redwoodsrising@savetheredwoods.org.

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Eligibility Requirements

For all Apprentices:

- Enrollment in classes at CR or CPH for the fall 2026 semester, or May 2026 graduation from CR or CPH.
- Strong interest in learning about natural resource science, management and restoration.
- Willingness and physical ability to work hard through long workdays doing arduous fieldwork, including long-distance, off-trail hiking through forests and riparian areas on steep, rugged, remote terrain with thick brush, large downed logs, etc. in all weather conditions and limited/no cell service.
- Ability to comfortably work in the field, be self-motivated and function independently once field assignments are understood.
- Strong communication skills and ability to work well/productively with others on diverse, interdisciplinary teams with a positive attitude, eagerness to learn, and flexible demeanor/ability to shift duties as priorities change.
- Attention to detail in collecting/recording data and completing other job duties.
- Commitment to personal/team safety and responsibility.
- Some relevant field experience and/or coursework *(listed on job descriptions for each discipline)*.
- Possession of a valid driver's license, or willingness to obtain one prior to May 1, 2026.
- Willingness to complete online Defensive Driver training prior to May 18, 2026 (more information will be provided after Apprentices are hired).
- Willingness to complete a federal background check (more information will be provided after Apprentices are hired).
- Ability to arrange their own transportation to the daily reporting location in McKinleyville, CA.

Find additional requirements for respective Apprentice disciplines & Apprentice II's in the following pages.

Save the Redwoods League, California State Parks, and the National Park Service seek to increase diversity in the workplace and are committed to creating an environment of equity and inclusion. People of all identities, backgrounds, and cultures are encouraged to apply.

2026 Forestry Apprenticeship

Position Objectives
- Help prepare 2026 sites for treatment implementation in GPC.
- Assist Redwoods Rising staff on forestry contract inspections in GPC.
- Create work products including maps, locations & summaries of resource inventories to provide Redwoods Rising staff with decision-making tools for ongoing restoration planning in GPC.

Duties & Responsibilities
- *Delineation of riparian zones, wetlands, and Equipment Exclusion Zones* – reading the landscape & flagging sensitive treatment areas.
- *Forest inventory* – sampling & assessing forest characteristics with timber cruising techniques.
- *Forestry contract inspection* – learning the basics in monitoring forestry contract progress and serving as "eyes & ears" on the ground for Forestry Field Project Leads.
- *Forest monitoring (as needed)* – establishing new & re-measuring existing permanent forest monitoring plots using established monitoring protocols, including learning tree species identification.
- *Timber marking (as needed)* – marking trees for removal or retention using specific silvicultural prescriptions.

Desired Skills & Qualifications (in addition to Eligibility Requirements for All Apprentices)
- Background in forestry or be working towards a Forestry degree.
- Basic knowledge of Excel, Word, ArcGIS Pro, Access & GPS tools.

Preferred Courses (any of the following, or equivalent coursework from other colleges)

Cal Poly Humboldt
- FOR 130: Dendrology
- FOR 231: Forest Ecology
- FOR 210: Forest Measurement and Biometry

College of the Redwoods
- FNR 51: Dendrology
- FNR 5: Forest Ecology and Management
- FNR 54: Introduction to Natural Resource Inventory Techniques

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2026 Roads Apprenticeship

Position Objectives
- Provide comprehensive road layout mapping in accordance with Redwoods Rising Roads Operations work plans in GPC.

Duties & Responsibilities
- *Reconnaissance of future work units* – surveying, mapping, identifying erosion features, flagging & painting trees.
- *Monitoring completed work units* – documenting photo points, identifying & quantifying any erosion.
- *Road removal operation inspection* – working with Redwoods Rising inspectors observing road removal operations with heavy equipment.

Desired Skills & Qualifications (in addition to Eligibility Requirements for All Apprentices)
- Basic knowledge of Avenza Maps, field maps, ArcGIS & GPS tools.

Preferred Courses (any of the following, or equivalent coursework from other colleges)

Cal Poly Humboldt
- FOR 210: Forest Measurement and Biometry
- FOR 353: Forest Road/Location & Design
- GSP 101: Geospatial Concepts
- SOIL 260: Introduction to Soil Science
- SOIL 460: Wildland Soil Management & Erosion Control
- WSHD 310: Hydrology & Watershed Management

College of the Redwoods
- AG 17: Introduction to Soil Science
- FNR 31: Geospatial Concepts
- FNR 54: Introduction to Natural Resource Inventory Techniques
- FNR 80: Introduction to Watershed Management

2026 Aquatics Apprenticeship

Position Objectives
- Assist with long-term monitoring of wadable stream reaches in GPC & GMC.
- Collect data on stream reaches pre- & post- road removal.
- Assist with other aquatics-related projects as needed.

Duties & Responsibilities
- Collecting baseline data for unburied stream channels.
- Field-validating streams in unrestored basins.
- Collecting stream habitat data for analysis towards riparian restoration.
- Conducting habitat surveys for previous & future projects in GPC & GMC.

Desired Skills & Qualifications (in addition to Eligibility Requirements for All Apprentices)
- Interest in and comfort with working in & around water.
- Background in watershed management, environmental engineering, environmental science, environmental studies or fisheries.
- Familiarity with identification of aquatic (fish, non-fish, invertebrate) & plant (particularly tree) species.
- Experience conducting habitat surveys – using tapes & stadia rods to measure depths & widths.
- Basic knowledge of Avenza Maps, field maps, ArcGIS & GPS tools.

Preferred Courses (any of the following, or equivalent coursework from other colleges)

Cal Poly Humboldt
- BIOL 105: Principles of Biology
- CHEM 107: Fundamentals of Chemistry
- ENGR 351: Introduction to Water Quality
- ENGR 440: Hydrology I
- ENGR 448: River Hydraulics
- FISH 260: Fish Conservation and Management
- FISH 300: General Education
- FISH 380: Techniques in Fisheries Biology
- OCN 109: General Oceanography
- SOIL 260: Introduction to Soil Science
- STAT 109: Introductory Biostatistics
- WSHD 310: Hydrology and Watershed Management
- ZOOL 110: Introductory Zoology

College of the Redwoods
- FNR 54: Introduction to Natural Resource Inventory Techniques
- FNR 80: Introduction to Watershed Management

2026 Ecological Monitoring Apprenticeship

Position Objectives
- Monitor forest structure and surface fuels before & after restoration thinning in GPC and GMC.
- Re-measure long-term monitoring plots in old-growth forests in Redwood National Park.

Duties & Responsibilities
- *Re-measure established plots to determine forest structure* – determine plot locations using high-precision GPS, map tree locations, identify tree species, determine tree status (live or dead), measure stem diameters & heights, survey saplings, seedlings & understory vegetation, measure surface fuels using standard methods, collect terrestrial laser scans as an alternate data source (if time allows).

Desired Skills & Qualifications (in addition to Eligibility Requirements for All Apprentices)
- Ability to pay attention to detail when collecting data, follow standard methodologies & protocols, and accurately record physical & biological data.
- Familiarity with standard forestry measurements and plant (particularly tree) species in redwood forests.
- Familiarity with Excel, Word, ArcGIS Pro, Access & GPS tools.

Preferred Courses (any of the following, or equivalent coursework from other colleges)

Cal Poly Humboldt
- FOR 231: Forest Ecology
- FOR 210: Forest Measurements and Biometry
- FOR 311: Forest Mensuration and Growth
- GSP 270: Geographic Information Science

College of the Redwoods
- FNR 5: Forest Ecology and Management
- FNR 54: Introduction to Natural Resource Inventory Techniques
- FNR 32: Geographic Information Systems

Redwoods Rising Apprentice II

Position Objectives
- Work alongside Redwoods Rising Apprentice I's in their respective disciplines to lend prior knowledge to increasing efficiency of apprentice work and meet the needs for knowledgeable and experienced work during the summer 2026 operating season.
- Gain progressive experience working with Redwoods Rising staff and taking on increased leadership responsibilities.

Duties & Responsibilities
- Completing position objectives, duties & responsibilities for respective discipline.
- Assisting Field Project Leads with training Apprentice I's in field safety and work protocols for respective projects.
- Providing day-to-day assistance for Apprentice crews – answering questions, teaching methods, and supporting problem-solving.
- Coordinating closely with Field Project Leads and SRL staff on logistics, team needs, and scheduling.

Skills & Qualifications (in addition to Eligibility Requirements for All Apprentices)

- *Required:*
    - One summer of prior employment as a Redwoods Rising Apprentice I.
    - Demonstrated ability to work well with others on interdisciplinary teams and cross-train others.
    - Willingness to take initiative on problem-solving, interpersonal conflicts, other issues that arise in the field.
    - Strong knowledge and understanding of the work protocols, best practices & organizational structures of your previous Apprentice role.
    - Positive, established working relationships with Field Project Leads & other Redwoods Rising staff.

- *Desired:*
    - Experience working on a team in a leadership role.
    - Willingness to work in the same discipline as your prior Apprenticeship (although candidates may apply and will be considered for an Apprentice II position that differs from their prior Apprenticeship discipline).