



Position Description: Field Educator

About Whitebark

Whitebark Institute is 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to addressing environmental challenges and supporting resilient communities in California's Eastern Sierra. Adaptation to the changing climate, specifically the proactive management of landscapes and communities to mitigate the risk of uncharacteristic wildfires, are a top environmental priority. Whitebark is taking the lead in wildfire resilience work in communities throughout the Eastern Sierra by bringing together local scientists, environmental planners, government agencies, educators, communities, and businesses to actively plan, finance, and restore healthy landscapes in Inyo, Mono, and Alpine Counties.

Whitebark Institute makes an impact in our communities and provides a great place to work. We are a small, growing organization with a skilled staff that brings experience from a multitude of scientific disciplines and applied areas of expertise. With an indescribable passion for this place, Whitebark is made up of talented outdoor enthusiasts who care deeply about the place we work and live. Collaboration is one of our core values, and we recognize that a healthy work-life balance is essential to our long-term success.

About the Position

The Whitebark Institute is recruiting a seasonal Field Educator to share information with visitors and residents on forest ecology, fuels management, and fire prevention. The Field Educator will report directly to the Community Resilience Program Manager and work alongside the Outreach and Education coordinators.

Job duties include, but are not limited to:

- Work collaboratively with other staff members to create friendly, accurate, and timely information for visitors, residents, and other land users.
- Work with Outreach and Education team to develop and deliver engaging educational programs and materials for visitors and locals, focusing on topics such as fire prevention, forest ecology, fuels management, and the mission of Whitebark Institute.
- Coordinate and facilitate talks at local campgrounds, providing visitors with insights into 2024 fuels reduction implementation, forest ecology, fire ecology, fire preparedness, and sustainable land management practices.
- Manage social media accounts to strategically promote educational content, actively engage with the public, and enhance awareness regarding ecosystem and community resilience, focusing on fire-related topics.
- Collaborate with internal teams to develop innovative educational resources, including interpretive signage, educational videos, and interactive exhibits.



- Represent Whitebark Institute at local events, schools, booths, and festivals, by actively engaging with visitors and residents.
- Assist in planning and organizing educational events, workshops, and field trips, ensuring seamless execution and meaningful learning experiences for participants.
- Prepare and distribute educational materials, including brochures, presentations, and videos, to support outreach efforts and enhance public understanding of fire prevention and forest ecology.

Qualifications

Required

- Degree, or equivalent experience, in education, communication, forestry, ecology, biology, natural resources, or another related field with at least one year of experience.
- Demonstrated organizational skills, including the ability to coordinate and execute educational programs and events effectively.
- Knowledge of outdoor education principles and practices, with experience in developing and implementing experiential learning activities and programs in natural settings.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills, with a genuine enjoyment of engaging with diverse audiences and effectively communicating environmental efforts, ecological principles, and community engagement initiatives related to the Eastern Sierra region.
- Excellent documentation and writing skills.
- Physical capability to stand for extended periods, carry loads of up to 30lbs, and walk on uneven terrain comfortably.
- The ability to maintain a positive work ethic both autonomously and collaboratively.

Preferred

- Experience in event planning and coordination, including the ability to organize and facilitate educational workshops, field trips, and community events effectively.
- Local roots and passions in the Eastern Sierra region and its communities.
- Familiarity with and interest in resource management issues of western states and the ecology of the Sierra Nevada ecoregion.
- Experience and knowledge in social media content creation, management, and strategy, including the ability to effectively utilize social media platforms to promote educational content and engage with the public.
- Proficiency in multimedia production tools, such as video editing software and graphic design programs.
- Proficiency in Spanish or another second language.

Contract Timeline:

Field Educators will be classified as seasonal, full-time, hourly employees. Work periods will be up to 40 hours per week, with some weekend and evening work expected. Start and end dates may vary according to local conditions; the anticipated work season will be from June through mid-September.

**Location**

Whitebark Institute is located in [Mammoth Lakes, California](#). The successful candidate is expected to reside in Inyo or Mono County. Some local and regional travel is required.

Compensation:

- Wage: \$20 - 27/hour depending on education/experience. Full time, 40 hours/week.
- Mileage for work-related travel in a personal vehicle will be reimbursed at the current IRS reimbursement rate.

How to Apply

Send a one-page cover letter, resume/CV, and three references to Claire Freeman, Whitebark Institute Community Resilience Program Manager, claire@whitebarkinstitute.org and cc administrator@whitebarkinstitute.org. In your cover letter describe yourself beyond your professional experiences, why you are interested, and why you are a great fit for the position. Additional information about Whitebark Institute is available at whitebarkinstitute.org. The position will remain open until filled but with the final selection no later than mid-May.