



JOB TITLE & POSITION #: 9113, Revegetation and Monitoring Worker (updated 08/16/12)

DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES: The purpose of this work is to restore native ecosystems on the Channel Islands. You may be asked to do any of the following, but you are not required to participate in activities which are beyond your physical strength or abilities.

Weed control: Recognize and search for particular plants, pull or dig out or cut down with hand tools.

Transport of materials and equipment: Lift and/or carry boxes, lumber, containers of water, etc., up the island access stairs, along island trails and off-trail into worksites. Maximum weight will be 50 pounds.

Erosion control: Prepare eroded soil surface and fill shallow gullies with hand tools, install erosion control barriers and mats; transport these materials to and within work sites. Install and remove fences and posts.

Seed collection: Locate and identify target plants, gather and clean seed using hands and hand tools.

Plant propagation: Perform general and specialized nursery tasks such as cleaning and preparing plant containers and soil mixes, transplanting, watering, monitoring, record keeping, constructing irrigation system, moving plants and equipment.

Planting: Prepare planting sites, install plants, cage, water, label.

Monitoring: Using standard techniques (these will be taught), inventory, measure and record plants, animals, and environmental factors on the site; survey for weeds and rare plants, record plant location using GPS and/or topographic maps.

TIME COMMITMENT: Transportation between the islands and the mainland will take 1-3 hours each way, depending on which island is the destination. For a one-day trip, expect to work 3-5 hours; for multi-day trips, expect to work about 6 hours per day. There will be free time during these longer trips.

WORK CONDITIONS: Work will be performed in a remote island setting. Travel to and from the island will be via a National Park Service boat or by a concessionaire boat, plane, or helicopter. Trips may be canceled due to bad weather, but it is possible on some trips to experience inclement weather, fog, rough seas, high winds, and motion sickness. Island temperatures range from approximately 40-85 degrees. The work will sometimes involve rugged hiking over uneven terrain on steep slopes. The physical labor will be moderate to strenuous for adults (adults should be able to lift at least 20-30 pounds), and light to moderate for youths (youths should be able to lift at least 10-15 pounds). You will need to lift safely, wear gloves, keep a safe distance from cliff sides, take necessary rest periods, and stay hydrated, especially since there is no shade where you will be working. Photos of volunteer activities may be taken during the program and used for publications and other documentation and promotion purposes. If you require restricted use of your photo, please alert your volunteer supervisor or project work leader.

EQUIPMENT: The Park will provide gloves, or you can use your own. There are no stores or restaurants on the park islands. You will need to bring your own food, beverages, sunscreen, and plenty of drinking water. If you have allergies or asthma, you should bring any necessary medicine. You must wear low-heeled, closed-toe shoes, such as hiking boots or athletic shoes. Long pants are recommended. Wear clothing that can be added or removed in layers according to the changing conditions, from T-shirt to warm jacket/sweater to water-resistant windbreaker, with a hat for sun protection. Keep your day gear compact and light. Pack all items in a water-resistant day pack or small duffel that cannot tear, spill or open accidentally.

KNOWLEDGE/SKILLS/EXPERIENCE: No previous knowledge or experience is required for this work. Gardening experience is helpful. You must be able to climb 154 stairs, walk up to 2 miles, bend, and kneel. **IMPORTANT:** If in doubt about your physical ability to perform the work, you are asked to consult the project leader well before the trip. If you have back, knee, ankle, or wrist problems, you may be excluded from part or all of this work.

TRAINING: You will receive an orientation and safety briefing about the park, the project, and the boat, plane, or helicopter. You will be trained in the safe and appropriate use of hand tools and the proper methods for plant eradication, depending on the project. You must realize your own abilities and accept full responsibility for working safely.

SUPERVISION: You will be supervised by park staff and volunteer work leaders, or staff from cooperating organizations.

EVALUATION: The Park reserves the right to do a background check on any volunteer. Volunteers will be informally evaluated based on the quality and reliability of their work, on their ability to work as part of a team, and on their willingness and ability to learn new skills and apply them. Besides the amount and quality of work you accomplish, an optimistic, helpful attitude and friendly spirit will help us accomplish good work and create memorable days.

SAFETY: Volunteers who preserve and protect the special resources of the Channel Islands are one of the national park's most important assets, and the park is concerned about your safety. Safety is a part of each work day; no job is so urgent that it cannot be done safely. You will receive a thorough orientation and will be trained on how to safely perform assigned work, including the operation and use of any equipment. It is your responsibility to meet with your supervisor to become fully briefed on the following concerns:

IN CASE OF INJURY OR ILLNESS: Injuries or illnesses contracted while working as a volunteer must be reported to your supervisor immediately. If your supervisor is not available, please report your injury or illness to the park's Volunteer Coordinator.

HANTAVIRUS PULMONARY SYNDROME (HPS) has been found on park islands; however, no human cases of the virus have ever been reported. HPS is a rare, but frequently fatal, illness currently being diagnosed in many parts of the country, including California. By taking the right precautions, you can minimize the risk of becoming infected with this rodent-borne virus. Working in the park is considered to be a minimal-risk activity for HPS.

You are required to read the Superintendent's March 17, 2009 memorandum regarding the presence of HPS in the Channel Islands National Park, as well as the article attached to the superintendent's memorandum. You must sign and return the certificate of receipt that is attached to the memorandum to confirm you have received and understood this information.

TICKS AND PREVENTING THE TRANSMISSION OF LYME DISEASE: Ticks are found on the Channel Islands; however, Lyme disease has not been found on the park islands, and it is rare anywhere in southern California. Since ticks are very small and can easily hide under clothing, consider wearing light-colored clothing and long pants/sleeves to make it easier to spot ticks. You should check your entire body thoroughly at the end of the day.

TOXIC PLANTS: Poison oak is found on Santa Cruz and Santa Rosa islands. Poison oak can be identified by its clusters of three shiny leaflets. Refer to written resources to become familiar with this toxic plant. People, especially those with existing allergies, may be sensitive when handling or in contact with certain vegetation and may have skin irritations. Please report any incidents of this nature to your project supervisor.

WASPS, BEES AND OTHER INSECTS: Volunteers should be especially cautious when encountering stinging or biting insects given the remote nature of the islands. Volunteers with a history of reactions to insects should bring the necessary medicine to counteract any adverse reaction.

FIRE SAFETY: The remote location of the Channel Islands requires all volunteers to use extreme caution to avoid igniting a fire. For some volunteer jobs, such as island drivers, this can include not parking a vehicle in tall grass; for those using power tools you must follow standard protocols (Job Hazard Analysis or JHA) to reduce fire risk. If you have questions or concerns, please consult with your supervisor.