

# **Assistant Education Specialist/Teacher Naturalist**

## **Position overview**

The person in this part-time position will primarily teach hands-on lessons to fourth graders who visit Hardware Ranch WMA and other outdoor sites. This individual will be employed by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources but will also work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and many local environmental education partners. Spend your days outdoors, guiding fourth graders in their discovery of the world around them!

If selected for this position, you will also support outreach efforts at the Hardware Ranch Visitor Center. You will get a close look at Utah's Rocky Mountain elk, the focus of our education programs for the winter season. You will also help produce, develop and deliver educational materials to the public; assist in the day-to-day management of a busy visitor center; and perform administrative tasks.

## **Duration**

Intermittent dates from mid-August to February (with a possible extension through May 2015, depending on funding)

## **Location**

Located in Blacksmith Fork Canyon, Hardware Ranch is about a 20–30 minute drive from Hyrum and a 35–45 minute drive from Utah State University in Logan. *On most days, you will have access to a carpool or vehicle to help with commuting costs.*

## **Fall schedule**

### ***Pre-season***

- Aug. 18–22: training
- Aug. 28–29: teaching begins

### ***Natural Resource Field Days, Logan Canyon***

- Sept. 3–4: training
- Sept. 8–12 and 15–19: teach in Logan Canyon from 9 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

### ***Mountain Wilds, Hardware Ranch WMA***

- Sept. 22–Oct. 31: Mon., Tue., Thurs., Fri. from 8:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Although certain days may be flexible, depending on your qualifications, the hours are not flexible. You must be able to work the hours indicated.

## **Fall duties**

Teach outdoor, hands-on lessons in Logan Canyon and at Hardware Ranch WMA. Pre-assigned lesson plans focus on Utah's fourth-grade curriculum and help guide students in the discovery of wildlife and watersheds. Other duties may include cleaning the visitor center and preparing education tools and supplies.

## **Winter schedule**

### ***Hardware Ranch WMA Winter Season***

- Nov. 15 and 22: training
- Dec. 6: training
- December 9–11: training and preparing to open the visitor center
- December 12–March 2: working every Mon. *and* Fri. from 9 a.m.–5:30 p.m. or every Sat. *and* Sun. from 9 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

Although certain days may be flexible, depending on your qualifications, the hours are not flexible. You must be able to work the hours indicated.

## **Winter duties**

Staff the front counter in the Hardware Ranch Visitor Center, develop and deliver a Saturday morning program for kids, sell sleigh ride tickets, reconcile the cash register nightly, produce accurate cash reports for daily accounting, answer phones, return phone calls, respond to visitor questions and concerns, develop new interpretive displays and educational materials, teach elementary school programs, deliver occasional sleigh ride interpretive talks, count elk, feed elk in the morning as needed, clean the visitor center daily (including restrooms and kitchen/dining area), paint, perform light facilities maintenance as needed and perform other duties as assigned.

## **Spring schedule (if funding is extended)**

### ***Wetland Wonders, Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge***

- Mid-March to mid-May: Mon., Tue., Thurs., Fri. from 8:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

## **Spring duties**

Teach fourth-grade school programs at Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge (vehicle will be provided)

**Pay:** \$11.92 per hour (will not exceed 300 hours)

**Benefits:** None, although a daily carpool may be available.

## **Apply before the deadline**

Send your cover letter and resume to Marni Lee ([marnilee@utah.gov](mailto:marnilee@utah.gov)) by Friday, Aug. 1. You may also email Marni if you have any questions. (No phone calls, please.)

## **Preference**

Preference will be given to applicants who have — or are working on — a degree in natural resources, education, science, biology, or parks and recreation or to applicants with prior nature center, agency or environmental education experience.

## **Physical Requirements**

You must be able to lift 50 pounds, stand on your feet all day and walk on unlevel terrain outdoors in varied weather conditions (anything from rain to temperatures higher than 90° F).