



USDA Forest Service Resource Assistant Program

- Position.** Southern Region (R8) Climate Change Resource Assistant
- Duration.** 8 Month Fellowship: Starting February 2023 - September 2023 (dates are dependent upon the start date)
- Location.** Atlanta, GA, Remote/Virtual, or located somewhere in the Southeast for Travel Opportunities (VA, NC, SC, GA, FL, TN, AL, MS, LA, KY)

Reports To. The Climate Change Resource Assistant will report to the Southern Region (R8) Regional Inventory, Monitoring, Assessment & Climate Change Coordinator in the Regional Planning Unit.

Job Overview

Region 8 has limited climate change capacity but is seeking to grow this program to meet and address burgeoning climate change policies and initiatives. This position would play a critical role in communication of climate change information, facilitation of training, support of Forest climate change coordinators, coordination of partner efforts regarding climate change policies and efforts and organization and analysis of data supporting NEPA or ongoing planning efforts such as the ongoing watershed planning efforts of the Southern Appalachian Subregion. This role will help build the framework for climate change resource capacity in the Southern Region for future generations.

This position will be virtually based out of the Planning Unit of the US Forest Service Southern Regional Office in Atlanta, GA.

Responsibilities and Duties

Travel 0-20%, dependent on applicant location.

- Collaboration with the Southern Region's forests and grasslands to provide support for climate change needs.
- Support R8's Climate Change needs in Forest Plan Revision and NEPA processes and documents, including carbon assessments and responses to public comments.
- Support the Forests in the completion of the Climate Action Tracker.
- Data analysis and synthesis to support the Southern Appalachian Subregion watershed resiliency planning efforts.
- Pioneer the streamlining of climate change monitoring information for the Southern Appalachian Subregion Forest Plan Biennial Monitoring and Evaluation Reports all due in fiscal year 2023.
- Assist in organization of partner requests and interest regarding Regional and Southern Appalachian subregion climate change information. For example, coordination with Southern Research Station or The Nature Conservancy.
- Regional communication of climate change policies and Executive Order updates (facilitation of meetings or trainings).



- Provide the Southern Appalachian Subregion's efforts to communication externally using ArcGIS Online and story maps.
- Support of the Southern Appalachian Subregion's project management efforts.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in environmental science, biological sciences, physical sciences, environmental justice, climate or atmospheric science, natural resource management, or related degree.
- Experience or knowledge in sustainable operations and recreation.
- Familiarity with the NEPA process, content analysis and issue identification.
- GIS skills - Ability to create, manipulate and manage spatial information and to create maps, programming skills, database skills, and proficiency with Esri software (ArcPro, ArcGIS Online, QGIS or other spatial mapping platforms).
- Clear and efficient written and verbal communication skills as well as strong interpersonal skills Detail oriented, highly organized, self-starter that can communicate with a wide audience of internal and external stakeholders.
- High proficiency in the use of all Microsoft Office platforms.

Minimum Requirements

- Completion of 2 years at an accredited university, an Associate's degree, or higher
- US citizenship or permanent residency. RAs must undergo a government background check if selected.
- Participation in US Forest Service Orientation Training scheduled for February 2023