

Park Interpretive Specialist (Seasonal)* - Palomar Mountain State Park

Definition

Under direction, to gather, present, and explain information to the public concerning the park's natural and human heritage, including its history, flora and fauna, and biological, geological, archaeological, cultural, recreational, and scenic resources; to encourage good conservation practices; to reach out to the community in an effort to encourage visitation; and to do other related work. Works as a lead for the park's volunteer program.

Pay and benefits

- \$10.50 - \$12.02
- Benefits: vacation, sick leave, pensions, deferred compensation savings plan, state service time
- State housing in the park may be available.

Job Characteristics and Definition of Seasonal

The seasonal nature of this job means that it is limited to 1,500 hours per year (3/4 of full time), not that it is confined to the summer months only. The position is currently open, and start time will be as soon as practicable after the employee has been selected, vetted and inducted.

The 1,500 hours may be expended over 6 - 12 months and at a varying rate throughout the year, depending on the candidate's preference and at the department's discretion.

Typical Tasks

Education & interpretation: Obtains data and prepares information for exhibits and presentations on natural, social, or cultural history; plans, organizes, and conducts educational walks, tours, or campfire programs; leads group singing; gives talks to groups; explains and interprets in an interesting manner the inter-relations of plants, animals, and man to their environments, the geological, social, and cultural history of areas; promotes conservation education by explaining the relation of natural resources to the economy and physical and mental well-being of man; maintains exhibits and self guided interpretive trails; operates audiovisual equipment and assists in preparing photographs, color slides, motion pictures and other illustrative materials; explains rules and regulations to visitors for the purpose of protecting and preserving natural, historic and cultural features, sites or structures in the park.

Community outreach: Establishes ties with local schools, institutions and government agencies in an effort to get youth and their families to the park; gives presentations to classrooms, civic groups, etc. to encourage visitation to the park; as needed, arranges bus transportation for group visits to park.

Park volunteer lead: Assists park volunteer coordinator to oversee the park's volunteer program; maintains volunteer hours; initiates and follows through on induction of volunteers.

Minimum Qualifications

Education: Equivalent of undergraduate degree, ideally with major work in education, communications, social sciences or natural sciences. *Experience may be substituted for formal education:* Full-time paid work performing duties similar to those listed under "TYPICAL TASKS" above may be substituted for a maximum of two years of the required education on the basis of one season (three months) of experience being equal to one year of education.

Knowledge and Abilities

Knowledge: Command of written and spoken communications; Microsoft Publisher or equivalent document creator that includes manipulation of graphics; PowerPoint or equivalent presentation program; Microsoft Excel or equivalent spreadsheet program; basic social media and electronic communications.

Ability to: Plan, organize, and conduct interpretive walks, tours, and campfire programs; plan and maintain exhibits and self guided interpretive trails; organize material for presentation and address an audience effectively; prepare written material for reports; analyze situations accurately and adopt an effective course of action.

Special Personal Characteristics

Demonstrated interest in outdoor life and natural history and human history; tact; neat personal appearance; pleasant personality; keenness of observation. Ideal candidate will be familiar with and have an appreciation of California state parks and the importance of promoting the park experience to the public.

How to Apply or Learn More

- Download and print an application: <https://jobs.ca.gov/pdf/std678.pdf>
- Complete and send to Kevin Best, Montane Sector Superintendent, Cuyamaca Rancho and Palomar Mountain State Parks, 13652 Highway 79, Julian, CA 92036
- Direct questions to Kevin Best at Kevin.Best@parks.ca.gov

* Seasonal does not mean the job is confined to the summer months only. See "Job Characteristics and Definition of Seasonal" above for important details.