

Project Overview

For the Wild is an environmental organization dedicated to the protection and rehabilitation of temperate rainforests of Cascadia, from Northern California to Southern Alaska. The 1 Million Redwoods Project performs forest and ecosystem restoration that seeks to enhance and revive local biodiversity.

The multipartite project is based in the coast redwood forest of Northern California, on a 500-acre wilderness reserve and native plant nursery. Currently in development is a biomimetic native plant nursery, where trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants of California will begin their lives before relocating to a damaged or degraded site. The water-conscious techniques developed on site include starting seedlings in the ground, not in plastic pots, and interspersing seedlings with perennial plants that are grown for seed and cutting. Acclaimed as “the most backed farm project in Kickstarter history,” the 1 Million Redwoods Project inspired 1,499 backers, who pledged \$124,453 to help bring this project to life. The contributions from this Kickstarter will help to fund the nursery materials (compostable pots, soil, irrigation supplies) and subsequent maintenance and work. The land for this project site has been purchased, three ponds have been built for irrigation, a 300 foot swale has been built - connecting two of the ponds, the nursery site (around 3 acres) has been leveled and cleared of brush, seed and spore library location has been determined, a communal barn for storage and housing has been built, and solar array and battery storage has been built and set up.

Current preparations involve building the nursery, setting up irrigation systems, researching plant and fungal assemblages and collecting seeds, spores, plants and cuttings from a range of habitats to populate the arboretum and seed bank. We maximize adaptability to climate stresses by taking great care to represent a broad array of ecotypes and assemblages, and tracking and projecting changes to hardiness maps. We are helping to build a culture of stewardship and deep ecology.

Learn more by visiting our website: <https://forthewild.world/1-million-redwoods-project>

Internship Position

For The Wild is seeking a committed individual who is passionate about native plant and tree restoration to assist during an exciting phase of development with our native plant nursery. The nursery intern will gain hands-on experience by assisting project leaders with a variety of tasks including, collecting tree cuttings, establishing new seedling beds integrated with perennial beds in a natural setting, preparing compost and soil mixtures, and more. The successful candidate will gain valuable knowledge and experience while playing a meaningful role towards establishing a holistic approach to restoring native plants and trees in Northern California.

Intern Roles & Responsibilities

Under the guidance of the nursery project leaders, the intern will gain the opportunity to:

- * Assist in developing the seed bank representing a wide distribution of common and rare native plant and fungi species
- * Assist in propagating plants from seed, cuttings and transplants for perennial beds and seedling distribution

Some tasks may include:

- * Collecting tree cuttings and starting clones
- * Laying out nursery beds and walkways
- * Using our custom coring tool to make rows of planting holes in the ground
- * Hand-watering, irrigation design, and other maintenance tasks
- * Restoring wild characteristics to the nursery space with wood and natural elements
- * Incorporating observations about plant growth, community dynamics, light conditions, etc., into site design
- * Compile habitat range maps, land use maps, private/public lands maps, and other resources in service of a regional biodiversity plan

Desired Qualifications

- * Intern may be enrolled, recently graduated, or possess equivalent experience in a field related to ecology, botany, permaculture, polyculture, environmental restoration, agroforestry, sustainable agriculture, horticulture, or a related field
- * Familiarity with botanical nomenclature and modern taxonomy, with emphasis on the flora of the northwestern United States
- * Familiarity with (and a preference towards expertise in) Traditional Ecological Knowledge and its practical applications in land stewardship in the Pacific Northwest with a particular focus on Indigenous earthways of the Pomo and Cahto Nations
- * Highly passionate about restoration of natural communities and functions, supporting robust and resilient soil, water and wildlife biodiversity
- * Ability to perform tasks both independently and collaboratively
- * Excellent communication and organizational skills

- * Willingness to work in a variety of weather conditions; in a rugged & off-grid environment
- * Ability to perform some physically demanding tasks

Terms of position

Duration: This internship will begin as soon as possible. After a 3-week trial period, the intern will enter a 3-month contract. Upon completion, the contract may be extended.

Hours: The intern will work 25 hours/week.

Remuneration: The intern will receive a \$150 stipend/week.

Location: The nursery worksite is located in northern Mendocino county, California. The intern may live onsite in basic off-grid accommodations, or may choose to find accommodations within driving distance of the worksite.

How To Apply

Forward a cover letter, resume, and three professional references to connect@forthewild.world, using the subject line "Nursery Intern." We are so grateful to everyone who takes the time and care to submit an application!