

Forest partners with veterans

BEND – The Deschutes National Forest has partnered with Mt. Adams Institute to host five VetsWork internships for U.S. Military veterans.

The 10-1/2-month-long career development internships will begin on February 8, 2016 on the Deschutes National Forest. All U.S. Military veterans (DD 214 required), ages 21-35, interested in natural resources management and public lands careers are encouraged to learn more and apply at VetsWork: Environmental Internships www.mtadamsinstitute.com/programs/.

Five internship opportunities have been advertised and will remain open until the positions have been filled:

- **Special uses** — The internship in special uses will allow the intern to work with permit administrators to process applications, evaluate proposals and perform inspections.

- **Natural resources** — Two internships are being offered as developmental positions in Vegetation Management. These positions will be part of the district timber and silviculture crews and directly participate in timber stand evaluations, timber sale preparation and reforestation

activities. Early season will be a balance of training and field work. There will also be opportunities to gain exposure to other resource areas (fire, wildlife, fisheries, etc.) to explore varied potential career paths within the U.S. Forest Service.

- **Volunteer and youth coordinator** — The individual chosen for this position will be part of the Bend-Fort Rock District trail crew and directly participate in trail maintenance, tool maintenance, and volunteer training and oversight. The intern will also help to manage and oversee six Youth Conservation Corp crews.

Housing is not provided with these internships, but individuals selected to participate in the program will receive a modest living stipend, an AmeriCorps education award, and basic health coverage.

VetsWork is a community and national service program (AmeriCorps) that engages the local public to solve land management challenges. In addition, it allows land management agencies an opportunity to play an active role in shaping the future workforce through a career development program where participants learn new skills and build professional networks.

DLT sets Santiam interpretive trail

The Deschutes Land Trust has established a new historic interpretive trail along the Santiam Wagon Road at the Land Trust's Whychus Canyon Preserve.

The Santiam Wagon Road was built in the 1860s to connect the Willamette Valley via Central Oregon to Idaho. A portion of the historic road passes through Whychus Canyon Preserve northeast of Sisters. The Land Trust's new Wagon Road interpretive signs provide the only interpretation of the Wagon Road east of the Cascades.

Visitors can now walk in the footsteps of Wagon Road travelers along a 1.1-mile trail that winds through juniper forest and sagebrush meadow. Colorful signs along the way tell the story of the Wagon Road east of the Cascades: its route, re-discovery, use, and place in history. Photos from the era help round out the story. Visitors can hike the Wagon Road and then connect to other trails at Whychus Canyon Preserve. Historic Wagon Road stopping points can also be seen at Land Trust-owned Indian Ford Meadow Preserve and Camp Polk Meadow Preserve. The Land Trust also offers free, guided Wagon Road walks at deschuteslandtrust.org/events.

"The Land Trust recognizes the important role history plays in our community. When our Land Trust



PHOTO COURTESY DLT

New interpretive signage offers history of Santiam Wagon Road.

preserves contain important historical artifacts like the Santiam Wagon Road, we do our best to protect and help educate others about those resources. This project represents a great partnership between the Land Trust, local history organizations, and the Oregon Community Foundation," said Brad Chalfant, Deschutes Land Trust executive director.

The Santiam Wagon Road served as a livestock trail and the only freight route over the middle section of the Oregon Cascades for most of the 74 years it was in use (1865-1939). It spanned a distance of almost 400 miles on today's roads and provided

passage for around 5,000 wagons during the first 15 years of its existence.

Funding for this project was provided by the Oregon Community Foundation's Oregon Historic Trails Fund. Volunteer Carol Wall helped research the road and its connection to Land Trust preserves. Steve Lent and the Bowman Museum and the Oregon Historical Society were provided historical photos. The Bureau of Land Management partnered with DLT on this project.

For more information on Deschutes Land Trust, call 541-330-0017 or visit www.deschuteslandtrust.org.

CORRECTION

The story "Parents play pivotal role in kids' athletics experience," (*The Nugget*, September 16, page 1) incorrectly identified Bruce Brown as the founder of the Positive Coaching Alliance. Brown is a partner in Proactive Coaching, a different organization.

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