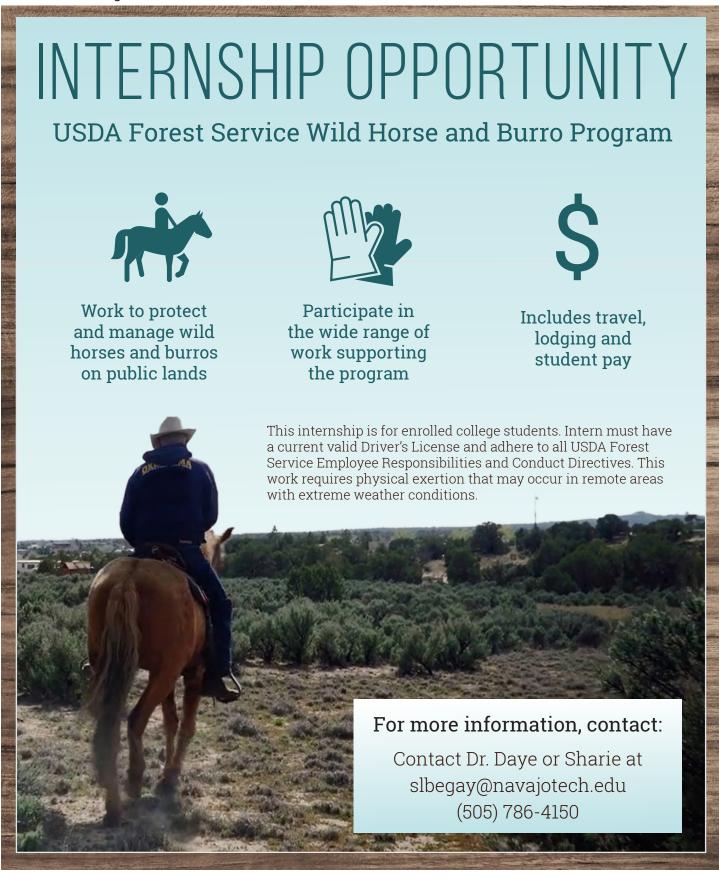


Forest Service and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

2021

Southwestern Region



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Southwestern Region

## USDA Forest Service Wild Horse and Burro Program Internship

#### Introduction

The Forest Service in partnership with Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) and Native American Serving Institutions (NASIs) is providing career developmental internships for students in animal, veterinary and agricultural sciences. This position is with the Southwestern Regional Wild Horse and Burro Program of the USDA Forest Service at one of its horse or burro territories. The regional program provides oversight and guidance for six federally designated Wild Horse or Burro Territories on national forests in New Mexico and Arizona. The most developed program currently is on the Carson National Forest, with a handling facility located in Bloomfield, NM.

## **Duties and Responsibilities**

Daily duties can vary depending upon which forest the student is working with. Examples of activities could include:

- feeding, watering, and cleaning up after horses in holding
- assisting staff with animals presented for adoption
- assisting staff in providing basic health care
- visiting territories to check on bait trap stations
- working with permittees collecting animals trapped by the permittees
- conducting rangeland management surveys,
- identifying bands of horses,
- assisting personnel on the administration of immuncontraceptive agents
- assisting staff with data management and data collection including GIS data
- working with collaborative animal welfare groups on issues related to horses and habitat, as well as addressing humane care and health issues.
- attending meetings on range management and addressing range health from invasive species, fire, drought and water quality
- assisting a Forest Service Law Enforcement Officer with a horse related issue on the forest or Wild Horse Territory

## **Benefits**

- Work to protect and manage wild horses and burros on public lands
- Participate in the wide range of work supporting the program
- Includes travel, lodging and student pay

#### **Physical Demands**

- Work involves physical exertion to walk, bend, stoop, lift items of moderate weight, climb or hike on sometimes slippery and uneven surfaces while working in the forest or at a handling facility;
- Most work is performed outdoors sometimes in remote settings. The expectation should be there will be many days of work in possibly extreme high or low temperatures. Students are responsible for bringing an adequate supply of drinking water and meals while working.
- Students must dress appropriately; long sleeve shirts, hiking or work boots, long pants, gloves and head cover (hard hats will be assigned).

#### Must have a current valid Driver's License Adhere to all USDA Forest Service Employee Responsibilities and Conduct Directives



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# USDA Forest Service Wild Horse and Burro Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service is a Federal agency that manages public lands in national forests and grasslands. The Forest Service is also the largest forestry research organization in the world and provides technical and financial assistance to state and private forestry agencies.

## Wild Horse and Burro Program

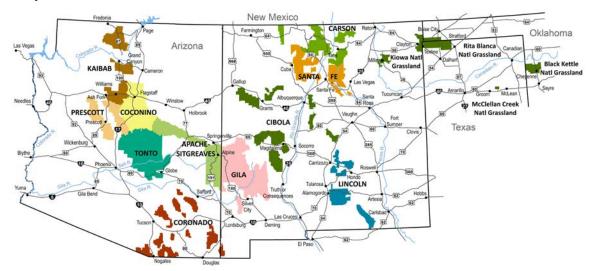
The Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971, as amended by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and the Public Rangeland Improvement Act of 1978, directs the protection and management of wild horses and burros on public lands.

The Forest Service's primary responsibilities are to manage wild horses and burros to a thriving natural ecological balance on the land that protects wild horses and burros from capture, branding, harassment, or death, while providing a balanced ecological habitat for other wildlife.

More information on the program is available at: www.fs.fed.us/wild-horse-burro/

## **Southwestern Region**

The Southwestern Region is home to six national forests in Arizona, five national forests and a national grassland in New Mexico, and one national grassland each in Oklahoma and the Texas panhandle. The region ranges in elevation from 1,600 feet above sea level and an annual rain fall of 8 inches in Arizona's lower Sonoran Desert to 13,171-foot high Wheeler Peak and over 35 inches of precipitation a year in northern New Mexico.



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