

Volunteer In Park Service Description



Position Title:
Fisheries and Water Quality Volunteer

VIP Name:

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The fisheries volunteer will assist with a variety of fisheries management and water quality related field activities. These duties include assisting with backpack electrofishing surveys of fish communities throughout backcountry areas of the park. Volunteers will carry buckets of water and fish and/or may assist with netting fish during surveys. Volunteers will assist with weighing and measuring fish, collecting water quality data, site data and may help collect a variety of other data (i.e. fish tissue, etc.). Volunteers will hike to the survey sites and be required to carry their lunch, water and waders.

Fisheries volunteers assisting with water quality collections will be part of teams of two or more who collect water quality samples for analyses at the University of Tennessee. Volunteers will collect the samples at predefined locations following collection protocols. Volunteers will record pertinent field data corresponding to the water sample on field datasheets and submit these data with the water sample. Collection will include driving and/or hiking to/from designated water quality sites on a predefined sampling schedule.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:

Volunteers will be hiking and working in stream and trails of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, which has uneven walking surfaces and can be slippery. Wading in streams while netting or carrying a bucket of water can be very slippery, so volunteers should wear felt, stream tread and/or stud soled boots. The outdoor environment can be hot, so volunteers should bring plenty of water to stay hydrated. Some hikes to sample sites may be strenuous, so volunteers should be physically able to hike to the site in order to safely complete the sampling effort. Please check the length, duration and physical demands of the hike to be sure you are adequately prepared with plenty of water, food and proper clothing given local conditions.

Location of position:

Gatlinburg, TN

Supervisor Signature:

Matt A. Kulp

VIP Signature: