

# **AmeriCorps Project Conserve**

## **2024 – 2025 Service Description**

### **Disaster Relief Team**

**AmeriCorps Position Title:** Water Quality Specialist  
**Host Site:** Mountain True

**Supervisor Name:** Anna Alsobrook (primary)/Jack Henderson (secondary)  
**Supervisor Title:** FB Watershed Science and Policy Manager  
**Supervisor E-mail:** [anna@mountaintrue.org](mailto:anna@mountaintrue.org)

**Physical Address:** 29 N. Market St. #610 Asheville NC 28801  
**Mailing Address (if different):** Click here to enter text.

**Phone:** 828-258-8737  
**Fax:**  
**Website:** mountaintrue.org

#### **Host Site Mission Statement:**

MountainTrue champions resilient forests, clean waters, and healthy communities in the Southern Blue Ridge.

#### **Summary of Position:**

MountainTrue's Water Quality Specialist will work closely with the French Broad Riverkeeper staff to document, assess, and remediate the impacts of Tropical Storm Hurricane Helene. Activities will include facilitating river cleanups, coordinating volunteers, collecting water samples, and analyzing data for followup. They will be instrumental in running some of MountainTrue's water quality programs like Swim Guide, microplastics sampling, as well as assisting with maintenance and promotion of our Paddle Trail campsites and facilitating river and land-based cleanups.

#### **Qualifications – Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:**

- The ability to drive a car is mandatory.
- Local knowledge of rivers and streams is a plus.
- Good organizational skills and time management practices
- Good communication skills
- Self-starter and resourceful
- Ability to take a project idea and run with it
- Must be comfortable working in outside environments, among a wide range of weather conditions
- Eligible applicants must be at least 18 years of age, be a citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident alien of the United States, and consent to a criminal history check.

#### **Preferred Service Hours / Weekly Schedule:**

M-F, some weekends 9AM-5PM

***PLEASE NOTE: In addition to fulfilling host site service responsibilities, all Project Conserve members are required to fully participate in team trainings, service projects and statewide AmeriCorps events. Project Conserve team events will occur approximately twice per month in locations throughout the service area and may require one or two overnight stays.***

## **Position Responsibilities and Duties:**

*Please see Instructions document for definitions, approved Project Conserve service activities, and reporting requirements.*

The Water Quality Specialist will assess and remediate impacts of Tropical Storm Helene in the French Broad Watershed by collecting and analyzing water samples, coordinating river and land-based cleanups, and helping to develop strategies for long-term recovery and restoration. Previous lab and water quality experience is not necessary, as we can teach that, but you should be comfortable dealing with and organizing datasets. Additionally, coordinating and communicating with volunteers is a primary function of the position. Some days will be facilitating volunteer work days or projects. Some days will be spent grabbing samples or doing followups. It will be a good mixture of inside and outside time.

## **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS**

*Essential functions are the fundamental job duties:*

- *Meaning the position exists to perform the function;*
- *There is a limited number of employees among whom the performance of the function can be distributed;*
- *And/or the incumbent is hired for expertise or ability to perform the function due to its high specialization.*

Equipment / Software Used: Google Workspace including Sheets and maps; Gaia

Physical Demands: Lift heavy objects; paddle a canoe or kayak

Transportation Needs: must be able to drive a car

Setting/Location of Service Activities: French Broad Watershed

Other Considerations: [Click here to enter text.](#)

**Choose the essential functions of this position:**

Using computer software and online programs for conservation-based education and outreach initiatives, including social networking, written articles and press releases

Leading, coordinating, and interacting with diverse individuals in field-based and office settings (ex. landowners, students, low-income residents, partner organizations).

Developing and implementing educational programs and events for groups (presentations, workshops, educational hikes and outings, etc).

Training, supporting, coordinating, and recognizing volunteers for conservation-based volunteer opportunities.

Conducting field-based monitoring, assessment, and management of conservation properties, public lands, and/or water quality monitoring sites.

Using mapping software and other computer programs to create quality reports, management plans, maps, and/or analysis, based on field data

Other Essential Functions: [Click here to enter text.](#)