



Career Spotlight

Forest Service
Career Pathways



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A national workforce development program manager supports crews and internships with nonprofit partners for youth and young adults.

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**National Workforce Development
Program Manager**
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Which of your talents or skills contributes most to your work and why? My role requires me to be a great communicator who engages a wide variety of internal and external partners to design, support, and grow innovative programs. My inquisitive nature, balanced by a deep drive and focus on results, is critical to the success of my work.

What is a challenge you have encountered in your position? Managing the unexpected! For example, planning 8 weeks of project work for a crew on a national forest and then a giant wildfire breaks out. Or planning a 2-week training for 50 new interns when a Government shutdown occurs. You learn to roll with it!

What is an example of technology or equipment that you use in your work? I use a variety of complex databases in my role to ensure that we are tracking information from our partners and for participants of our programs who are employed by our partners. The databases allow us to record financial information, performance monitoring, and participant demographics.

What has been your most exciting project?

My most exciting project is co-leading the rollout of new partnerships serving young people from all across the country. With our partners, we are building programs that will engage over 1,000 youth in the next 5 years to reduce wildfire risks and accelerate reforestation all across the Nation.

When did you know this career would be a good fit for you? I began my career as a Presidential Management Fellow in the Southern Region's Fire and Aviation Management unit. I knew that the Forest Service would be a great fit for me because of the complexity of our mission.

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