



**VOLUNTEER POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT:** Bonneville Shoreline Trail Urban Rangers (Volunteer)

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Bonneville Shoreline Trail (BST) Urban Ranger Program is a volunteer mountain bike trail ambassador program coordinated by the University of Utah (U of U). Urban Rangers will travel the BST from Hogle Zoo to the top of Dry Creek Gulch providing outreach to trail users in the form of environmental interpretation, public land management education, report trail hazards, and pick up litter. Urban Rangers will help gather data about healthy lifestyles, outdoor recreation participation, and attitudes towards trail etiquette and trail conflict.

The program is coordinated by the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism (PRT) at the University of Utah. The Department has partnered with the National Park Service and receiving support from the Outdoor Foundation, Outdoor Adventures of the University of Utah, Competitive Cyclist, Black Diamond Equipment, and Mountain Khakis. Urban Rangers will receive specialized training from the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, the Natural History Museum of Utah, Red Butte Garden, Salt Lake Parks and Recreation, and the American Red Cross at no cost. Urban Rangers will receive uniforms and occasional incentives from partner companies. During BST patrols, Urban Rangers will use mountain bikes donated from Competitive Cyclist.

The Urban Ranger position is a volunteer vocational training experience that requires 10-12 hours per month with one patrol each week. Urban Rangers will recruit a different U of U student volunteer each week to accompany them on each patrol. The ride is approximately 11.2 miles long and gains 1,600 feet of elevation. During the ride rangers are responsible for greeting trail users who are interested in the program or need help; cleaning up litter and dog waste; and gathering data to be used in peer-reviewed publications. In total, each Urban Ranger will patrol approximately 20 times a semester and 40 times during the academic year to fulfill the volunteer commitment.

**REQUIREMENTS**

- Strong verbal communication skills and willingness to engage trail users in dialogues about trail etiquette, environmental interpretation, and public land management (content provided in training)
- Interest and ability to communicate outdoor recreation opportunities, land management, and public land policy
- Ability to complete first aid and CPR trainings
- Ability to safely ride a mountain bike (training and equipment provided by the University)
- Ability to role model and advocate the International Mountain Bike Association's "Rules of the Trail" guidelines and Leave No Trace principles
- Ability to attend daylong training on September 8 and a University press release at a later date
- Enrolled as a full-time student in the University of Utah

**REPORTS TO:** Drs. Matt Brownlee and Nate Furman in the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism at the University of Utah

**RESPONSIBILITIES**

25%: Responsible for outreach to Bonneville Shoreline Trail users through environmental interpretation, public land management education, assisting with directions, reporting trail hazards, and tracking use patterns.

25%: Responsible for distributing incentives to trail users, cleaning up litter and waste.

20% Volunteer recruitment and communication

10%: Special event promotion

10% Gather and store data for program reporting

5%: Social media content creation

5%: Administer basic first as needed and within the scope of certification guidelines

**HOW TO APPLY:**

A small number of positions are available in the Urban Ranger program, the selection process is competitive, and program coordinators are seeking a diverse applicant pool. Please submit a resume and cover letter explaining your qualifications and commitment to Dr. Nate Furman at [nate.furman@utah.edu](mailto:nate.furman@utah.edu) by August 24, 2015. Start date is September 8.



Photo: Jessica Furman

## Background

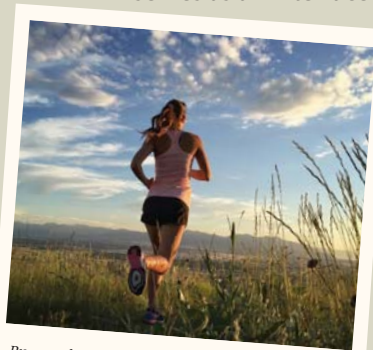
In 2015, The University of Utah's (U of U) Dept. of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism (PRT) applied for a competitive National Park Service (NPS) Challenge Cost Share Grant, which is a funding source provided through a partnership between the NPS and Outdoor Foundation. Following the award of the grant, the NPS - through the Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program - will provide the PRT Department assistance to develop a strong and viable Urban Ranger partnership consisting of stakeholders from the private and public sector. These partners will be selected based on their potential interest in creating a sustainable Urban Ranger program near the U of U and developing an interagency Urban Ranger training program.

## Partners

The PRT Dept. and the NPS are working with Outdoor Adventures at the U of U, Competitive Cyclist, and Mountain Khakis. The BST Urban Ranger Program seeks to develop more partnerships as the program grows. Agencies and entities the PRT or NPS have contacted include: Natural History Museum of Utah, University of Utah Global Change and Sustainability Center, University of Utah Sustainability Office, University of Utah Facilities Office, Tracy Aviary, Jordan River Commission, Salt Lake City Public Utilities, Red Butte Gardens, Bike Utah, and the United States Forest Service.

## Bonneville Shoreline Trail Urban Ranger Program

The Urban Ranger Program for the Bonneville Shoreline Trail through the U of U Dept. of PRT will focus on the non-motorized section of trail from the Hogle Zoo to the top of Dry Creek Canyon that serves as an interface between the urban area and adjacent public lands. This section of trail is located less than .25 miles from campus and routinely receives hundreds of hikers, trail runners, mountain bikers, and dog walkers each day.



Runner along the Bonneville Shoreline Trail  
Photo: Robert Aseltine

Students will act as Urban Rangers on mountain bikes providing information to trail users about public land policy and environmental education. The program will be integrated into the core curriculum of the PRT Dept. and be used as a mechanism for students to learn about recreation programming and outdoor recreation participation.

This program has three purposes. First, it will engage youth in healthy outdoor recreation on public lands while riding mountain bikes. Second, youth volunteers will provide visitor service information to educate trail users about responsible trail etiquette, ecology, and management, and will also help to protect one of Salt Lake City's most fragile watersheds. Third, the U of U will use data collected from this program to evaluate and replicate it for interested agencies.

## Funding

### In-Kind (July 2015)

- Competitive Cyclist: Two mountain bikes (\$10,000)
- Black Diamond: Apparel (\$2,000)
- Mountain Khakis: Incentive products for volunteers & trail users (\$1,200)
- U of U Outdoor Adventures: Bicycle repair & maintenance (\$1,000)
- Leave No Trace/Tread Lightly: Trail etiquette & ethics literature (\$1,000)
- Portland Design Works: Bicycle cargo racks (\$380)
- Robert Aseltine: Image licensing (\$200)

### Fiscal

- NPS/Outdoor Foundation: Challenge Cost Share Grant (\$12,500)



Go-Ride team rider Aaron Crowder  
Photo: Ali Goulet

### For more information contact:

#### National Park Service

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marcy\_demillion@nps.gov

#### U of U Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism

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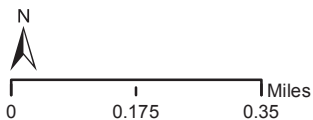
# Urban Ranger Program Focus on the Bonneville Shoreline Trail

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



## Legend

- Bonneville Shoreline Trail Patrol Area
- - - California National Historic Trail (CALI) (Approx.)
- - - Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail (MOPI) (Approx.)
- - - Pony Express National Historic Trail (POEX) (Approx.)



Produced by the National Park Service.  
Lead partners of this cooperative project:

