

Volunteer Opportunity in Remote Alaska

Maintenance assistants needed for building up keep, painting, small construction projects, plumbing projects, and minor vehicle maintenance at Innoko National Wildlife Refuge, west central interior Alaska. Position requires the operation of small boats and flights in small aircraft. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will provide training, equipment, food, lodging in a field camp and travel including round trip transportation to Alaska. Maintenance experience preferred. Desire and willingness to help with camp chores and maintenance activities involved with remote camp living. Carrying a shotgun is required for bear protection. Work will be performed in an extremely remote setting, in cool wet weather conditions and in the presence of several kinds of biting insects. Other possible activities include assistance with fisheries, fire monitoring and an environmental camp. Please submit a list of two – three references and an e-mail address (if available) in your application.

The Innoko National Wildlife Refuge, remote even by Alaska standards, encompassing approximately 3.85 million acres, is located in western interior Alaska, 70 miles west of McGrath, AK (location of refuge headquarters). McGrath is located 220 miles northwest of Anchorage and is accessible by aircraft only. There are no roads to the Refuge all transportation is by air in a small float plane. Once on the Refuge transportation is by foot, in uneven marshy or wooded terrain, or by small river boat (up to 24 ft.). Weather can be cold and wet, to warm and wet in mid summer. Temperatures range from 30 – 80 degrees F. The refuge is rich in wildlife including large moose, black and grizzly bear, large populations of waterfowl and numerous fish species including trophy northern pike. For more information please call Greg Birkenfeld, Deputy Refuge Manager at 1-888-601-7970.