

Alabama Trails Foundation – Pinhoti Trail Director

New Position

Extended Closing Date – September 10, 2021

We are hiring! Here is your chance to provide leadership for a two-year program that will set the bar for a sustainable Pinhoti Trail program, as well as future trail projects across Alabama and beyond! Join the team that will change the outdoor recreation economy for east Alabama.

The [Alabama Trails Foundation](#) (ATF) is seeking an independent contractor to direct and administer trail improvement projects on the Alabama Pinhoti Trail and engage local communities in developing nature-based tourism economies to support sustainable trail use.

The ATF is committed to supporting this contract position with an annual compensation of \$60,000 to \$75,000. The contract shall be renewable on an annual basis and may continue beyond the initial two-year period. Our goal is to award the contract no later than January 1, 2022.



Job Specifications:

The ideal person for this position will:

Work as an independent contractor in compliance with IRS definitions. This includes managing their tax reporting, benefits, office space and equipment, as well as transportation.

Be accountable to the ATF Board of Directors working closely with ATF standing and ad hoc committees. Contract specifications, quality assurance, and timelines for deliverables will be managed by the ATF acting Executive Director.

Contribute as a team member, within the contractual framework, with other ATF consultants and the [Alabama Trails Commission and its Advisory Board](#).

Have a strong presence in the Pinhoti region and demonstrate the ability to build local coalitions with a range of individuals and groups across the six-county region (Cherokee, Calhoun, Cleburne, Clay, Talladega, and Coosa).

Be willing to travel. The Alabama Pinhoti Trail is over 170 miles in length thus some overnight travel may be necessary. There are likely opportunities to represent the Pinhoti Trail at state, regional, and potentially national venues.

Have experience in project management and an understanding of the socioeconomics of rural communities.

Manage his or her schedule and demonstrate efficiency in time management. This job will take a lot of energy, flexible hours, and adaptive management skills. A “full-time” approach should be anticipated.

Alabama Trails Foundation Background

Created by the Alabama Legislature in 2012 and approved by the Governor of Alabama (Alabama Code 41-23-140), the Alabama Trails Foundation, Inc. (ATF) is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, created “to go beyond the traditional means” supported by state and federal governments to fund the enhanced development and sustainability of Alabama’s trails.

One of our primary goals is to position the Alabama Pinhoti Trail for designation as a National Scenic Trail either as an independent designation or as part of the Appalachian Trail. In achieving that goal, we want to expand east Alabama’s outdoor economy and establish a high standard for a sustainable trail system in Alabama. As we envision, the Pinhoti will be a national model for a sustainable trail, a viable component of an outdoor recreation economy, and an integral part of healthy physical, social, and emotional lifestyles.

From 2018 to 2022 the Alabama Legislature has allocated \$1,020,000 in support of the Pinhoti project. Our first projects are underway, and they are scheduled for completion in late summer 2021.

We Value:

- Best practices in trail design, construction, and maintenance
- Trail sustainability – ecological, social, and economic
- Connectivity, accessibility, and inclusiveness
- Healthy communities
- Rural economic development
- Natural heritage

Our job is to:

- Conduct **private sector fundraising** to augment priority trail projects across the state.
- Develop **relationships with corporations and businesses** to bring their leadership, expertise, and financial support to the management of trails.
- Coordinate with educational institutions to **grow the next generation** of trail managers, natural resource professionals, and outdoor enthusiasts.
- Serve as a **liaison between state and federal agencies** for trail-related development.
- Support **communities and local elected officials** in trail planning, emphasizing the connection between outdoor recreation, economic development, history, and culture.
- Train and support **trail volunteers** in best management practices in the maintenance of a sustainable, accredited trail system.