

Newsletter

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Alta Environmental Center





Summer Internship Reflection

—By Jessica Gallafant

My name is Jessica Gallafent and I interned with the Alta Environmental Center this summer. I am also an undergraduate student at the University of Utah studying biology and environmental and sustainability studies. As an undergraduate student, it's not often that you are able to find internship opportunities that align with your schoolwork, interests, and career goals. However, I found that interning with the Alta Environmental Center gave me just that.

I learned about the native plant species that inhabit Little Cottonwood Canyon and the invasive noxious weeds that displace these species. As a biology student with an interest in plant ecology, this was very exciting and helped develop my interest in this subject. Additionally, I learned a lot about Alta's sustainability efforts. I was also able to meet others in partnering organizations that promote sustainability in the Wasatch National Forest, such as

TreeUtah, Little Cottonwood Canyons Foundation, HawkWatch, Friends of Alta, and Tracy Aviary. This expanded my knowledge and understanding of sustainability efforts and opportunities to get involved in volunteering.

Lastly, I really enjoyed the opportunity to work in such a beautiful work environment and to meet and work with a lot of amazing people. I remember having the realization, "I can't believe I get to hike these beautiful trails every day!" I felt extremely lucky to be around such gorgeous scenery. The people who visit Alta are all very kind and have incredible stories to share. The people I worked with were passionate and caring and created a very inviting work environment. Overall, I had a wonderful experience and can't wait to come back for skiing!

Deep Powder Pass —Cottonwood Canyons Foundation

Enjoy skiing and give back to the mountains at the same time with the Deep Powder pass sold by Cottonwood Canyon Foundation. That's skiing for less than \$35 a day at Utah's most beautiful resorts, Alta, Brighton, Solitude and Snowbird. All proceeds from the pass go to the Cottonwood Canyons Foundation to go towards education and stewardship programs in the Cottonwood Canyons. Get 100 or 50 days of the best skiing. Passes are transferable but are good for the season purchased only. Support a great foundation and enjoy the deep powder the Cottonwood Canyons has to offer. **Call 801.930.5010 or email volunteer@cottonwoodcanyons.org** to purchase your Deep Powder Pass. We'll see you out on the slopes this winter!

More information at cottonwoodcanyons.org

**Passes are available on a first come-first serve basis with limited quantities.







The future will either be green or not at all.

- Bob Brown

Cecret Lake Trailhead and Trail Closure

Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities is repairing the dam at Cecret Lake. The trailhead and trail at Albion Basin Campground are closed until further notice. Cecret Lake is a water storage reservoir. The Cecret Lake Dam was built in the 1930's and is an earthen dam. The dam has deteriorated over the years and water can no longer be stored safely. The project began the week of September 24th and is expected to last 30 days, but it could take longer. Visit fs.usda.gov for additional information on the trail closure and dam construction. Or contact Project Manager Bernard Mo at Bernard.mo@slcgov.com and Watershed Manager Patrick Nelson at Patrick.nelson@slcgov.com



Winter Activities, Not Just Skiing

Alta Environmental Center partners with other stewards of the environment. Together we host sustainability events and educational events throughout the winter. If you are looking for a rest on your knees this winter, or just want to have different experiences enjoying winter in Alta, then join us for a snowshoe tour, Tour with a Ranger, a bird tour, or a self-guided SKEcology tour. For more information on these winter education activities go to alta.com/environment. Our partners include Cottonwood Canyons Foundation, Friends of Alta, and Tracy Aviary. Working together we are protecting the places we recreate and enjoy.



SKE-cology: A self-guided tour for all ages. It's a fun, educational opportunity to learn ecology and the cultural history of Alta on skis.

Bird Survey: Join a Tracy Aviary expert birder as we tour the mountain on skis in search of our feathered friends.

Tour with a Ranger: A volunteer Naturalist Ranger from the Cottonwood Canyons Foundation will meet you on the mountain for a fun, informative ski tour learning about Albion Basin and Alta.

Snowshoe Tour: A volunteer Naturalist will take you on a snowshoe tour to explore and learn about the environment at Alta Ski Area.

Fall Sustainability Events

- October 15 -Tour With a Ranger Application Deadline: Mid-December through March, join CCF volunteers on skis who give naturalist tours to Cottonwood Canyons resort-goers. Apply today at cottonwoodcanyons.org/volunteer-opportunities
- October 24—Documentary: Trouble the Water: Join the "year of resilience" lecture series at the U. More info at plan.cap.utah.edu
- November 8-Panel: Disaster Risk, Response & Recovery in the Wasatch Front: The last part of the
- "year of resilience" lecture series at the U. More info at plan.cap.utah.edu • November 12—Birding at Alta: Did you know we have



over a 100 species of birds that breed in Alta? Come and learn more this fall. The second Monday of each month join bird experts. Register at alta.com/the-mountain/events