Alumni discuss YFMP:

“Best experience I had in high school by far. Teamwork and ecology—what else could you ask for!”

“A very good perk of YFMP is getting experience and getting to know the Forest Service scientists. I doubt that I would have gotten my summer job with the Forest Service if I hadn’t been in YFMP for two summers.”

“The best part of YFMP was being outside in Montana’s summer, becoming more aware of our resources and the environment, meeting the best people to work with, and being able to use technology in the forest.”

“YFMP is amazing...it truly exposes students to what science is all about.”

“YFMP was a great experience and I would do it again in a heartbeat.”

Learning to monitor vegetation health

To apply:
Email or Postmark by April 8, 2022

the following information:

• Contact information email, address, and phone #
• School transcript
• Letter of recommendation from a teacher
• Cover letter describing:
  1. What you hope to gain by this experience.
  2. Special contributions you can make to this program.

YFMP
Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest
Attn: Liz Burke
2880 Skyway Dr.
Helena, MT 59602
elizabeth.a.burke@usda.gov
Phone: 406.495.3713

2021 YFMP Team
What is YFMP?

YFMP stands for Youth Forest Monitoring Program. This program is available through a partnership between the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest, Lewis & Clark County, Montana Discovery Foundation, and UM Helena College. 2022 support comes from the Missouri River RAC and Lewis and Clark County.

**YFMP Members:**

- Spend a summer outdoors learning about forest ecology
- Work cooperatively in a group of peers
- Engage in hands-on learning about natural resource management
- Collect data and present findings to forest scientists, county commissioners, and the public
- Make recommendations that improve forest health
- Explore a variety of natural resource careers
- Gain experience for future employment opportunities

YFMP Training

**Dates:** June 21–28 (T, W, TH, M, T)  
(Monday, June 20th is a Federal Holiday)

**Location:** Helena Forest Office

**Time:** 8:30am—5:00pm

Students learn concepts and techniques in natural resources conservation and management. Students will work in classroom and field settings. Outdoor skills will be introduced in preparation for a 3-day field monitoring trip into the Scapegoat Wilderness, July 5–7.

YFMP Citizen Science

**Dates:** June 29–July 28 (Mon-Thurs)

**Location:** Helena Forest Office

**Time:** 8:30am—5:00pm

Students split into teams and apply their training to specific monitoring projects. Teams collect, compile, and interpret monitoring data. Field instructors supervise students and each monitoring project is sponsored by a designated Forest Service scientist. Students consult with their Forest Service contact periodically throughout the program.

Location: Students are split into teams based out of Helena Office. Transportation is provided from the office to the field each day.

Stipend: $1,000 ($45/day) received as a lump sum at end of program.

Safety: Students will follow Covid safety protocol including mandatory mask use, vehicle and equipment cleaning protocols, social distancing, and daily health screening.

Requirements: Open to students entering grades 10-12, who are in good academic standing and/or have shown ability and interest in natural sciences.

Students must apply to the program by April 8, 2022. Students will be notified by May 1st if they have been accepted into the program.

Measuring a stream cross-section