

Taking Serendipitous Opportunities

Allie Leber, Montana Afoot and Afloat '17



Allie Leber never expected to see a flier for Wild Rockies Field Institute hanging in the hallway of Temple University in Philadelphia, but once she did she knew she had to learn more. After getting her course of choice - Montana Afoot and Afloat - approved by the Study Abroad Office and declaring an Environmental Studies minor, she was off to Missoula for an unforgettable semester in the backcountry.

A few years later, Allie was searching for a role within the outdoor industry where she could make an impact, and came across an opportunity as a Tribal Support Specialist. The posting encouraged those with experience collaborating with Native American populations to apply, which Allie had through her time with WRFI. She now holds that role, focusing on environmental policy related to Native American Tribes who are impacted by nuclear transport and waste.

“What stood out to me about WRFI was seeing the ways different fields of study can lead to a variety of environmental studies goals - from making a difference in communities, to promoting a healthy environment - there are lots of career options to get to that end goal.”

- Allie Leber, Montana Afoot and Afloat '17



After graduating from Temple University in 2018, Allie held a variety of positions in the outdoor industry - from climbing instructor to REI associate. She then moved to Missoula, in hopes of finding a role that better aligned with her passions, and did so when she joined the North Wind Group as a Tribal Support Specialist in 2022.