

April 6, 2021

Position Title: Field Crew Members for Shrubland Biomass Measurements

Employer: University of California, Davis

Location: Duty stations will be in southern California and field sites will be on the Angeles, Los Padres, San Bernardino and Cleveland National Forests

Dates: Application deadline: April 16, 2021

Field work dates: Variable, mid-late April to mid-late June or early July, 2021 (3 months in total)

Compensation: approximately \$18/hr (dependent on experience)

A project from the University of California, Davis is seeking two field crew members for a three-person team to conduct vegetation inventory and monitoring in support of ecological research on public lands in southern California, primarily in the Angeles, Cleveland, Los Padres, and San Bernardino national forests. The position will involve collecting technical data on shrubs and trees including stand structure, species diversity, vegetation regeneration, mortality, and landscape characteristics from remote field sites and acquiring images of plots using a pole-mounted camera.

Job Description:

Responsible for assisting in vegetation sampling, and for entering data. Assist in locating and visiting remote field sites, often in areas burned by wildfire. Follow established US Forest Service data collection protocols. Several different protocols will likely be used throughout the season. Identify plant species and carry out measurements of vegetation status, size, density, cover, etc., as well as measurements of landscape condition. Input data on a weekly basis.

Essential Responsibilities:

- Field Work (85%): Assist in conducting vegetation sampling, and entering data to describe trends in the conditions of sampled vegetation. Assist in locating and visiting remote field sites, often in areas burned by wildfire. Follow established US Forest Service data collection protocols. Several different protocols will likely be used throughout the season. Assist in identifying plant species and carrying out measurements of vegetation status, size, density, cover, etc., as well as measurements of landscape condition.
- Data entry (15%): Assist in uploading and/or filing collected data on a daily or weekly basis. May be required to enter data at an office location using Microsoft Excel or Access.

Minimum qualifications:

- Knowledge of and experience in ecology, forestry, botany, range science, or related natural science field
- Experience in vegetation sampling techniques

- Experience in identifying shrubs and trees
- Experience in backcountry camping
- Experience in use of map, compass, and GPS units for location and travel
- Knowledge of and experience with Microsoft Excel for data entry purposes

Preferred qualifications:

- Ability to identify California plants to the species level using a dichotomous key
- Experience in shrub and forest vegetation data collection methods
- CPR and Wilderness First Aid certified (certification may be accomplished after job offer is made, with registration cost paid by the employer)
- Ability to maintain a positive attitude in physically demanding and/or uncomfortable conditions
- Enthusiasm for the type of work to be conducted

Physical Demands:

- Ability to hike 5+ miles per day with a heavy pack through difficult and steep terrain often without trails and often in areas burned by wildfire
- Ability to work in extremely hot and dry as well as cold and wet conditions

Work environment:

Field method, equipment, and safety training will be provided. During the work week, crews will usually be car camping, with campsites paid for by the employer. Some camping will be in unofficial, “dispersed” sites on public lands. Campsites will change periodically depending on duration of work at each site. In some limited cases crews may be required to backpack into remote areas for multi-day overnight stays. The crew will be provided with a vehicle but crew members are responsible for their own transportation to and from the duty station at the beginning and end of the work week. Some driving may be on remote and rugged roads. Working conditions will be remote and rugged, with possible overnight stays in the backcountry.

Covid-19 Precautions:

Crews will be expected to carefully follow required Covid-19 precautions outlined by their supervisors (and required by the University of California and/or the US Forest Service). We expect employees to help protect the health of their fellow crew members by acting responsibly.

To Apply (please follow these instructions exactly):

Send a cover letter, CV/resume (2 pages maximum), and three references (including name, organization, phone, email, and relationship to you) to Emma Underwood at eunderwoodrussell@ucdavis.edu, no later than April 1, 2021. Combine all application materials into a **single pdf** with your last name at the beginning of the file name and write “2021 Biomass Measurement Field crew” in the subject line of your email. Thank you for your interest!