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National Council for Air and Stream Improvement, Inc.

Job Description

Position: Wildlife Biologist II – Post-fire Riparian Vegetation (1 position)
Reports to: Research Scientist – Western Sustainable Forestry Program
Work Week: Exempt position; 40+ hours per week to meet work demands
Revised: February 13, 2023
Duty Station: Willamette Valley, Oregon
Duration: Position dependent: June 5 to mid-September 2023
Salary Range: \$3,200 - \$3,500/month, commensurate with experience, intermittent lodging may be provided (as needed)
Key Words: Riparian vegetation, post-fire, forestry, Oregon Cascades
Benefits: Position not eligible for benefits, does provide paid designated holidays

This research examines differences in vegetation characteristics in riparian areas after wildfire and with various post-fire forest management. While technicians will be based out of the Corvallis area, study sites are located throughout the mid-Oregon Cascades Range. Lodging will be provided as necessary for long-distance fieldwork. Position will involve physically demanding work in challenging conditions (heat, cold, rain, sun, steep slopes, loose rock, logging slash, stinging insects, hazardous plants), potentially working long days including some weekends, driving on logging roads, and navigating through difficult forest terrain. Primary duties of crew members will consist of collecting vegetation data in riparian areas using a variety of techniques (transects, quadrats, densiometer, photography). Technicians should have a working knowledge of Pacific Northwest plants, including tree, shrub, and forb species, and have experience identifying plants using field guides such as Pojar and MacKinnon (2004) and taxonomic keys like Hitchcock and Cronquist (1973).

Essential Job Functions:

1. Train crew to conduct Pacific Northwest botanical surveys, including tree, shrub and forb species.
2. Coordinate survey schedules and workflow for three other crew members (working in teams of two).
3. Use forest survey equipment (e.g., GPS, compass, densiometer) to collect detailed vegetation/habitat measurements and information at multiple study sites.
4. Position will require working outdoors in inclement weather, often in recently harvested forest stands. Must be able to carry gear on steep slopes with challenging field conditions. Must be able to get to and work from several remote locations throughout Oregon, drive unimproved forest roads, read maps, navigate through a forested landscape, and relate well with the public.
5. Willingness to have a flexible work schedule and travel between study locations. The ability to camp outdoors overnight, if needed, at designated camp sites is required.

6. Gather data using specific protocols, enter data with both tablets and Excel, create summaries of data and work accomplished.
7. Communicate with multiple stakeholders, providing regular updates on field progress and challenges.
8. Demonstrate an ability to work effectively with others toward meeting the goals of the National Council of Air and Stream Improvement, Inc. (NCASI).
9. Develop a familiarity with NCASI's mission, policies, practices, and procedures.
10. Become acquainted with the environmental issues of the forest products industry.
11. Read, absorb, process, and communicate complex information. Assist the supervisor in responding to technical queries by NCASI clients and others in a competent and timely manner.

Additional Responsibilities and Requirements:

1. Undertake additional activities as assigned by Supervisor.
2. Follow all COVID safety protocols.
3. Provide proof of full COVID vaccination.

Minimum Qualifications:

1. Experience identifying plants using field guides such as Pojar and MacKinnon (2004) and taxonomic keys like Hitchcock and Cronquist (1973).
2. A Bachelor's degree in a biological sciences discipline or related environmental field with a focus on botany, plant ecology, or forest ecology. Two or more seasons of similar experience.
3. Must have driving record which can be approved by Federal Agencies to drive government vehicles and insured at standard rates.
4. Data entry, data management (Microsoft Excel), and GIS experience.

Additional Desired Qualifications:

1. Successful applicants will be self-motivated, have a strong work ethic, and be able to work harmoniously in a group living situation.
2. Track record of working in a safe, efficient, and cooperative manner in a team setting.
3. Prior land navigation and field experience.

To Apply: Please send cover letter, resume, and 3 references with phone numbers and e-mail addresses to: Ms. Laurie Clark, NCASI, 8769 Hwy 42, Tenmile, OR 97481, preferably delivered electronically to: lclark@ncasi.org with "**Wildlife Biologist II – Post-fire Riparian Vegetation**" in the subject line. Applicant review will begin early March 2023 and continue until the position is filled. NCASI is an equal opportunity employer.