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National Council for Air and Stream Improvement, Inc.

Job Description

Position: Wildlife Biologist I – Post-fire Riparian Vegetation (2-3 positions)
Reports to: Research Scientist – Western Sustainable Forestry Program
Work Week: 40 hours per week
Revised: January 3, 2025
Duty Station: Willamette Valley, Oregon
Duration: June 2nd to possibly mid-Sep 2025, dependent upon funding, weather, & fire
Salary: \$19.00 - \$22.50/hour, commensurate with experience, intermittent lodging may be provided (as needed)
Key Words: Riparian vegetation, post-fire, forestry, Oregon Cascades Range
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 Cascade Range. Lodging may be provided for some longer-distance field sites. 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, 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. Use forest survey equipment (e.g., GPS, compass, densiometer) to collect detailed vegetation/habitat measurements and information at multiple study sites.
2. Position will require working outdoors in inclement weather, often in recently harvested or burned 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.
3. Gather data using specific protocols, enter in either phones, tablets or Excel.
4. Willingness to have a flexible work schedule and travel between study locations. The ability to camp outdoors overnight at designated camp sites, as needed, is required.
5. Demonstrate an ability to work effectively with others toward meeting the goals of the National Council of Air and Stream Improvement, Inc. (NCASI).
6. Develop a familiarity with NCASI's mission, policies, practices, and procedures.
7. Become acquainted with the environmental issues of the forest products industry.
8. Read, absorb, process, and communicate complex information.

Additional Responsibilities and Requirements:

1. Undertake additional activities as assigned by Supervisor.
2. Follow all safety protocols.
3. Pass a mandatory pre-employment drug test

Minimum Qualifications:

1. Knowledge of Pacific Northwest plants, including tree, shrub, and forb species.
2. Experience identifying plants using field guides such as Pojar and MacKinnon (2004) and taxonomic keys like Hitchcock and Cronquist (1973).
3. Senior standing as an undergraduate (>3 years college education and >2 seasons prior field work) or a bachelor's degree in a biological sciences discipline or related environmental field with a focus on entomology, animal ecology, or botany.
4. Must have driving record which can be approved by Federal Agencies to drive government vehicles, insurable at standard rates, and willing to have driving record pulled and reviewed.
5. Basic data entry experience (Microsoft Excel).

Additional Desired Qualifications:

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

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 I – Post-fire Riparian Vegetation**" in the subject line. Applicant review will begin February 2025 and continue until the positions are filled. NCASI is an equal opportunity employer.