



BOTANY RESOURCE SPECIALIST PROJECT LEAD – Mountain City-Ruby Mountains-Jarbridge Ranger District, Nevada

Job Code: 2023-BRF-149

Location: Elko, Nevada

State: Nevada

Program: Basin and Range Forestry

Contract Length: 7 Months (May to November) Project is weather dependent; the season may end earlier if conditions prevent safe field operations.

Job Description:

The Great Basin Institute, in cooperation with the US Forest Service's Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest, is recruiting two Botany Crew Leads to perform and manage vegetation surveys in the Ruby Mountains near Elko, Nevada. Surveys support NEPA requirements for permitting forest health projects currently under consideration in the region. Data informs mitigation measures to protect targeted plant species, while assessing potential distribution and prevalence of invasive species. Work supports stewardship of vegetative communities that serve as habitat for sensitive wildlife.

Botany crew leads assist agency staff and GBI resource specialists in conducting botanical surveys to establish distributional occurrences of targeted species and populations in and around designated project sites and access routes. Crew leads will be responsible for crew safety and oversight, including the coordination of daily field tasks, assist in training of survey methods, data management, and reporting deliverables. Crew Leads communicate closely with agency staff to plan and assess survey data capture and establish crew productivity rates for achieving target acreage, while coordinating with GBI program staff to ensure all logistical and administrative requirements are met.

Specific duties: 1) botanical surveys to determine species identity, population characteristics, environmental conditions, factors affecting vigor and extent of species and their habitat; 2) lay out and mapping of monitoring plots; 3) photograph and/or collect specimens; 4) record, enter and summarize data; and 5) use botanical keys to identify plants for accuracy of reporting deliverables.

Compensation and Benefits:

Wage: \$28/hour with overtime at 1.5x hourly rate. Full time, Monday – Thursday 10 hour work days.

Health, Dental, Vision Insurance 100% employer paid and available on the first day of the month following the start of employment. **Shared housing provided** through AIRBNB or USFS bunk houses

Camping Per Diem: \$15/night. **Uniform Stipend:** \$150

Job Qualifications:

- Degree in botany, plant ecology, or a closely related field in the biological sciences, including coursework in plant taxonomy and/or systematics (by position start date) *AND* one year of botany related field work as well as three years of professional fieldwork experience.
- Capacity to collect and maintain field data in an organized manner that is easily understood and accessible to other resources staff;
- Experience leading crews in the field, including oversight of crew safety, communication, fidelity to data methods and data quality;
- Ability to understand, implement and adhere to established data collection, inventory, assessment, and monitoring protocols;
- Proficiency in navigation using GPS, topographic map and compass;
- Experience conducting rare plant surveys and other botanical field work using technical keys to identify plants to the species or subspecies level;
- Ability to work safely and productively in remote field settings under adverse conditions, including occasional overnight camping in remote areas for consecutive nights;
- Advanced communication skills for diverse audiences, both technical, written and oral;
- Physically fit to work outdoors, carry up to 50 pounds of personal and/or field equipment, and withstand the rigors of a forested and/or high desert environment in all seasons.
- Possess a clean, valid, state-issued driver's license and have the ability to safely operate and maintain a 4WD vehicle on and off paved roads.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Familiarity with and interest in resource management issues of western states and the ecology of the Sierra Nevada ecoregion;
- Knowledge of the flora of the Eastern Nevada /Great Basin region;
- Advanced skill using specialized software such as Microsoft Office Suite, ArcMap GIS, Avanza and Google Earth.

About the Location:

The Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest's spectacular 6.3 million acres make it the largest National Forest in the lower 48 states. The Forest does not resemble most other National Forests in that it has numerous fairly large but non-contiguous sections scattered across most of the state of Nevada and a portion of eastern California. The Mountain City-Ruby Mountains-Jarbidge Ranger District features a wide variety of diverse landscapes including the Jarbidge, East Humboldt and Ruby Mountain Ranges. The terrain is made up of rocky peaks, cirque basins, high glacier-formed lakes, steep narrow canyons, and rolling sage/grass hills. The elevation on the District ranges from about 6,000 feet on the valley floor to 11,387 feet on the summit of Ruby Dome in the Ruby Mountains. Vegetation consists of sagebrush, aspen, mountain mahogany, and high altitude conifers. For more information, see the USFS district website at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/htnf/about-forest/districts/?cid=fseprd754250> or the Elko Chamber of Commerce at <https://www.elkonevada.com/>. For more information on GBI, find us at www.greatbasininstitute.org

