

Rangeland & Habitat Technicians (Summer 2023)

Organization: USDA-ARS

Job title: Biological Science Aid or Technician

Series/Grade: GS-0404-03/04/05

Start Date: Between April 24th and May 22nd

End Date: August or September 2023

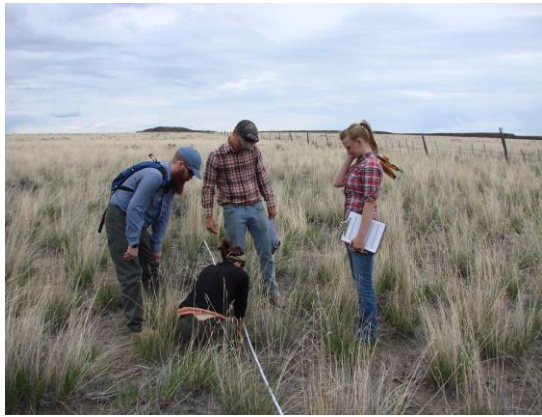
Location: Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center, Burns, OR

Number of Positions: 4



Job Description:

Assist a rangeland scientist conducting vegetation ecology research in sagebrush steppe and riparian plant communities located in the northern Great Basin. Projects include determining interactions between livestock grazing and fire risk, investigating the effects of prescribed burning and mechanical sagebrush thinning on wildlife habitat, evaluating the impacts of invasive plant infestations on sage-grouse habitat, determining landscape scale vegetation patterns, investigating management and climate influence on vegetation characteristics and sage-grouse habitat, evaluating methods to contain and prevent invasive plant infestations, and investigating methods to shift succession to desired plant communities. Duties include vegetation and environmental data collection, processing vegetation and soil samples, establishment and maintenance of research plots, and data entry. Duties may also include assisting in some laboratory work. Travel and camping throughout Oregon and northern Nevada is required.



Requirements: Undergraduates in biology, range, soils, wildlife, or other natural resource fields. Must be able to lift objects that weigh up to 40 pounds including a backpack and kneeling/squatting for extended periods of time for sample collection. Must have a valid state motor vehicle operator's license and be able to operate motor vehicles. Must be able to work and camp in adverse weather conditions and have the gear to do so. Must be able to hike over rugged and steep terrain for at least an hour. Needs to be at least 16 years of age and a citizen of the United States of America.

GS-3: Successful completion of 1 year of study that included at least 6 semester hours in any combination of scientific or technical courses such as biology, chemistry, statistics, entomology, animal husbandry, botany, physics, agriculture, or mathematics OR 6 months of general experience, which demonstrates the ability to perform the work of the position.

GS-4: Six months of general experience and 6 months of specialized experience OR successful completion of 2 years of post high school study that included at least 12 semester hours in any combination of courses such as biology, chemistry, statistics, entomology, animal husbandry, botany, physics, agriculture, or mathematics of which 6 semester hours of courses relate directly to the duties of the position (plant biology, range/ecology, or natural resource management). General experience must have demonstrated the ability to perform the work of the position or provided a familiarity with the subject matter. Specialized experience must have been at least equivalent to the GS-03 grade level in the Federal Service.

GS-5: One year of specialized experience comparable to GS-4 which is directly related to the work of this position and which has equipped the applicant with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform successfully the duties of the position. OR Completion of a full 4-year course of study leading to a bachelor's degree: (a) with major study in Agronomy, Biology, Ecology, Forestry, Rangeland Ecology, Rangeland Resources, Rangeland Management, Rangeland Science, Botany, Plant Biology, Plant Physiology, Conservation Science, Ecosystem Science, Earth Science, Soil Science, Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, Wildlife Management, Wildlife Science, Forestry, Crop Science, and Natural Resources (except fisheries and oceanography); OR (b) that included at least 24 semester hours or the equivalent in any combination of courses such as forestry, agriculture, crop or plant science, range management or conservation, wildlife management, watershed management, soil science, natural resources (except marine fisheries and oceanography), outdoor recreation management, civil or forest engineering, or wildland fire science. No more than 6 semester hours in mathematics is creditable. OR A combination of education/specialized experience as described.

Salary and Housing: \$15.65-\$17.30/hr depending on experience and/or education. Workweek is typically 40 hours, Monday-Thursday. Housing may be provided, depending on availability. When staying overnight in the field, a per-diem will be provided for food.

To Apply: Email resume, unofficial college transcripts, and contact information for three references to Christie H. Guetling by **February 1st**. Interviews will start in January as applications come in.

Christie H. Guetling
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