**COLORADO NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM**

**Position Announcement**

**TITLE:** Riparian botanist technician for stream monitoring fieldwork

**POSITION TYPE:** Full-time, temporary

**NUMBER OF POSITIONS:** 1 Riparian Botanist

**WORK LOCATIONS:** Wyoming

**PAY RATE:** $16.00–$19.00, depending on experience and position.

$42.50/day per diem when traveling beyond base location. Health insurance provided.

**DURATION:** May–September 2022

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**Summary of Positions**

In partnership with the Wyoming Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP) is seeking experienced Riparian Botanists to assist in the implementation of BLM’s Lotic Assessment, Inventory and Monitoring (AIM) initiative as well as the Multiple Indicator Monitoring (MIM) of stream channels and streamside vegetation. Successful applicants will be trained in the methods by ecologists from CNHP and BLM and will spend the summer applying those protocols in stream reaches in Wyoming to assess the riparian vegetation. **All Technicians must be available for the weeklong training May 16th – 21st in Rawlins, WY.**

One riparian botanist will be hired. The botanist will be part of a 3-person crew consisting of one botanist and two stream technicians that will work collectively to carry out aquatic and riparian sampling. The teams will work closely with Wyoming BLM Staff and CNHP Ecologists. Crews will spend 6-8 days in a row in the field, often camping remotely on BLM land. Data collection will include water quality sampling, stream habitat data, and benthic macroinvertebrates. Field protocols can be found here: [https://aim.landscapetoolbox.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Lotic_FieldProtocolForWadeableSystems_TR1735-2.pdf](https://aim.landscapetoolbox.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Lotic_FieldProtocolForWadeableSystems_TR1735-2.pdf)

**Riparian Botanist** positions will be responsible for vegetation sampling along streams. They will need to identify all riparian vascular plants found along the streambank to the species level either in the field or in the office after sampling. They will collect vouchers of unknown species and track all unknown plants from multiple sites over a sampling hitch. The riparian botanist will also be responsible for collecting data on the intensity of grazing impact to the streambank and riparian vegetation following defined protocols.

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**Qualifications for Riparian Botanists**

1. Coursework in botany, ecology, wetland science, natural resources, range management, or related field **required** for all positions. A completed B.S. degree is preferred.
2. Field experience collecting scientific data, specifically vegetation sampling, is **required**.
3. Ability to identify riparian graminoids, forbs, shrubs and trees to species using dichotomous keys is **required** for this position. Good familiarity with riparian species and commonly accepted plant nomenclature in the Rocky Mountain West is preferred.
4. Experience with aerial photography (Google Earth), navigating with a topographic map, and use of GPS is preferred.
5. Willingness and ability to work long hours and unusual schedules, travel extensively during the field season, share living quarters, car camp, and potentially backpack and hike long distances (up to 10 miles / day) while carrying a heavy pack (up to 40 lbs) is required.
6. Willingness and ability to work with a positive attitude in field conditions that include exposure to inclement weather, rugged terrain, hot or cold weather (30–110° F), mosquitos, and poisonous plants, all while maintaining a strong commitment to team safety is required.
7. High degree of comfort wading in all types of streams including those with slick rocks, boulders, fast water, cold water, deep mud, and log jams is required.
8. Careful attention to detail and strong written and organizational skills to complete lengthy field forms is required for all positions. Experience collecting data electronically using tablets or other devices is preferred.
9. Strong oral communication skills for professional interactions with BLM staff and private landowners is required.
10. A valid driver’s license is required for all positions. Experience driving 4x4 vehicles on rough roads preferred.
11. Wilderness First Aid or other field safety training preferred for all positions.

Reflecting departmental and institutional values, candidates are expected to have the ability to advance the Department’s commitment to diversity and inclusion.

To apply email resume, cover letter, and three references (with phone numbers) to Tess Webb at Tess.Webb@colostate.edu.

First consideration of applicants will begin January 3rd, 2022. Applications will continue to be accepted until all positions are filled or until April 30, 2022, whichever comes first.

Colorado State University is committed to providing a safe and productive learning and living community. To achieve that goal, we conduct background investigations for all final candidates being considered for employment. Background checks may include, but are not limited to, criminal history, national sex offender search and motor vehicle history.

As of August 16, 2021, Colorado State University has mandated vaccinations against COVID-19. Faculty and staff are required to submit their vaccine status or declare an exemption. More information about the vaccination mandate can be found here.