



## COLORADO NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM Position Announcement



<b>TITLE:</b>	Riparian Ecology Field Technicians
<b>POSITION TYPE:</b>	Full-time, temporary
<b>NUMBER OF POSITIONS:</b>	2 in total, 1 Riparian Ecology Lead and 1 Stream Ecology Lead
<b>WORK LOCATIONS:</b>	Based in Salt Lake City, UT. Travel throughout Utah.
<b>PAY RATE:</b>	\$21.00–\$24.00, depending on experience and position. \$60.00/day per diem & gear reimbursement when traveling beyond base location. Total reimbursement = \$395-455/two-week hitch. Health Insurance provided.
<b>DURATION:</b>	April – September. Dates are approximate.

### Summary of Positions

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In partnership with the Utah Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP) is seeking 2 highly experienced field technicians to collect **riparian, wetland, and stream monitoring data** through the **BLM's Riparian & Wetland and Lotic Assessment, Inventory and Monitoring (AIM) Program**. Successful applicants will be trained in the methods by Aquatic Ecologists from CNHP and BLM's National Operations Center. Technicians will spend the summer applying the protocols in wadable streams and rivers as well as associated wetlands and riparian areas on BLM lands throughout the state of Utah. Field protocols can be found here: [DRAFT Field Protocol for Lentic Riparian and Wetland Systems](#) and [AIM National Aquatic Monitoring Framework: Field Protocol for Wadeable Lotic Systems, TR1735-2 ver 2 \(blm.gov\)](#).



Data collected will be used to help BLM evaluate restoration effectiveness by quantifying baseline conditions prior to work completed in BLM Utah's [Restoration Landscapes](#). Riparian & wetland quantitative vegetation data will be collected using the line-point-intercept (LPI) method. Additional data collection will include geomorphology, soils, and surrounding land use. Stream data collection will include water quality sampling, stream morphology and habitat assessments, and benthic macroinvertebrate collection.

**All technicians must be available for two week-long training courses: Lotic AIM Training April 15<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> in Cedar City, UT AND Riparian and Wetland AIM Training April 29<sup>th</sup>-May 4<sup>th</sup> in Carson City, NV.**

One field team of two (1 Riparian Lead and 1 Stream Lead) will be hired. **The team will be stationed in Salt Lake City,**

**Utah.** The crew will spend 8 days in a row in the field, camping away from their base location. The team will travel extensively across the state of Utah collecting data in a wide variety of settings.

Technicians will be responsible for supporting and managing crew safety and wellbeing, coordinating field logistics, managing the crew's equipment, and completing administrative paperwork. Before, during and after field data collection, the Technicians will be responsible for the organization and quality control of all data collected using iPad tablets and occasional paper forms.

### Qualifications for All Positions

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1. Coursework in botany, ecology, hydrology, natural resources, range management, or related field with completed B.S. degree required.

2. Field experience collecting scientific data, specifically vegetation sampling, stream habitat, soil profile descriptions, and/or other environmental data required for all positions. Knowledge of stream morphology and previous experience working in riparian areas preferred.
3. Previous experience working on a BLM Assessment, Inventory and Monitoring (AIM) crew, *Lotic or Riparian and Wetland AIM* preferred.
4. Experience using dichotomous botanical keys and field guides, familiarity with the major plant families, and knowledge of western flora and/or wetland species preferred (required for at least one member of the team).
5. Experience with aerial photography (Google Earth), navigating with a topographic map, and use of GPS required. Experience with ArcGIS and ESRI based products preferred.
6. 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) required for all positions.
7. 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 required for all positions.
8. Careful attention to detail and strong written and organizational skills to complete lengthy field forms required for all positions. Experience collecting data electronically using tablets or other devices preferred for all positions.
9. Strong oral communication skills for professional interactions with BLM staff and private landowners required for all positions.
10. A valid driver's license and experience driving 4x4 vehicles on rough roads required for all positions.
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 Katrina Castro ([Katrina.Castro@colostate.edu](mailto:Katrina.Castro@colostate.edu)) and Mitch Kleimeyer ([Mitchell.Kleimeyer@colostate.edu](mailto:Mitchell.Kleimeyer@colostate.edu)).

First consideration of applicants will begin February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Applications will continue to be accepted until all positions are filled or until April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, whichever comes first. Applicants are encouraged to apply early.

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.

Colorado State University is committed to providing an environment that is free from discrimination and harassment based on race, age, creed, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, gender, disability, veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or pregnancy. Colorado State University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action employer fully committed to achieving a diverse workforce and complies with all Federal and Colorado State laws, regulations, and executive orders regarding non-discrimination and affirmative action.

