COLORADO NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM
Position Announcement

Title: Utah BLM Stream Monitoring Lead and Field Technicians

Position Type: Full-time, temporary

Number of Positions: 6 in total, 3 Lead Technicians and 3 Field Technicians

Work Locations: Multiple locations throughout Utah

Pay Rate: $16.00–$19.00, depending on experience and position.

Work Per Diem: $42.50 /day per diem when traveling beyond base location. Health insurance provided.

Duration: April–August 2021

Summary of Positions

In partnership with the Utah Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP) is seeking experienced field technicians to collect stream monitoring data through BLM’s Lotic Assessment, Inventory and Monitoring (AIM) Program. Successful applicants will be trained in aquatic AIM sampling protocols by CNHP and BLM ecologists and will sample stream habitat for wadeable rivers and streams on BLM lands throughout Utah.

All Technicians must be available for the weeklong training in April (exact date to be announced in January).

Three field teams of two technicians each (1 Lead Technician and 1 Field Technician) will be hired. The teams will work closely with Utah BLM Aquatic Biologists and other BLM staff within the Field Offices. Crews will spend 4–8 days in a row in the field, often camping away from the Field Office location. Data collection will include water quality sampling, stream habitat data, and benthic macro invertebrates. Field protocols can be found here: https://aim.landscapetoolbox.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Lotic_FieldProtocolForWadeableSystems_TR1735-2.pdf

Lead Technician positions may start up to 2 weeks in advance of the field season to plan field season logistics and scout field site. The Lead Technician will be responsible for supporting and managing crew safety and wellbeing, coordinating field logistics and scheduling, managing the crew’s equipment, and completing administrative paperwork. Before, during and after field data collection, the Lead Technician will be responsible for the organization and quality control of all AIM data collected using both paper forms and iPad tablets.

Qualifications for All Positions

1. Coursework in ecology, natural resources, range management, or related field required for all positions. A completed B.S. degree is preferred for all positions and required for Lead Technicians.

2. Field experience collecting scientific data is required for all positions. Experience with stream habitat, water quality, macro invertebrates, and/or other environmental data preferred.

3. Experience with aerial photography (Google Earth), navigating with a topographic map, and use of GPS preferred for all positions and required for Lead Technicians. Experience with ArcGIS preferred for Lead Technicians.

4. 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 15 miles / day) while carrying a heavy pack (up to 40 lbs) is required for all positions.
5. 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 for all positions.

6. 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 for all positions.

7. 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 preferred for all positions.

8. Strong oral communication skills for professional interactions with BLM staff and private landowners is required for all positions.

9. A valid driver’s license is required for all positions. Experience driving 4x4 vehicles on rough roads preferred.

10. 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. Please indicate if you would like to be considered for the Lead Technician.

First consideration of applicants will begin January 4th, 2021. Applications will continue to be accepted until all positions are filled or until April 1, 2021, whichever comes first. Applicants for the Lead Technician Position 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.