

## **Field Technician – Vegetation Sampling of Invasive Species**

The Spatial Analysis Lab (SAL) at the University of Montana is recruiting for up to four field technicians to assist with the first field season of a three-year research project measuring and mapping invasive annual grasses (with an emphasis on *Ventenata dubia*). Selected applicants report to the Lead Techs and Field Coordinator and are responsible for assisting in field collection of both GPS and vegetation sampling data.

**Job Length:** Full-time seasonal support is available for the upcoming field season, which is weather dependent. Ideal job length is from **late May 2024**, to continue through early August. Start and end dates are flexible to accommodate student schedules. Potential for additional work beyond August on other projects.

**Compensation:** \$16 per hour + up to \$30.50 per-diem while in the field. Technicians will be based out of Missoula/Polson or eastern Montana, with transportation to field sites. No lodging provided. Work schedule will consist of 8-day hitches.

### **Required Qualifications**

- Be currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in botany, ecology or a related natural resources field
- Willingness and ability to maintain a positive attitude in field conditions that include exposure to inclement weather, hot or cold weather (20°F–110°F), rugged terrain, mosquitos, poisonous snakes, bears, lightning, wildfire, etc., all while maintaining a strong commitment to team safety and data integrity
- Excellent organizational and communication skills
- Attention to detail and ability to accurately identify vegetation
- Ability to carry up to 50 lbs across uneven ground
- Valid driver's license with a good driving record

### **Preferred Qualifications**

- Previous field research experience, preferably in rangeland ecosystems and on private lands
- Familiarity with ArcCollector/Field Maps
- Prior experience identifying rangeland vegetation species
- Prior experience with field techniques, including GPS, transect sampling, and vegetation cover estimation
- Experience interacting with private landowners and agency professionals
- Current first aid/CPR certification

The successful applicant must be able to work in remote locations and be comfortable camping for up to 8 days at a time. The work schedule is subject to the weather, which may cause unpredictable days off—**applicants must be willing to work when needed and take days off when the opportunity arises**. The position will require driving a few hours each day in trucks over low maintenance roads and hiking up to several miles each day through open, uneven terrain to reach some sampling sites.

If you do not fully meet the required qualifications for this position but are interested, we encourage you to still apply. If you have a good attitude, strong work ethic and are passionate about conservation we want to talk to you. Training will be provided for the right candidate.

**Positions open until filled; applications will be reviewed as they come in, with priority given to applications received by May 1<sup>st</sup> 2023.** To apply, please send a letter of interest, current resume, and names and contact information for three references to Rebekah Brassfield ([rebekah.brassfield@mso.umt.edu](mailto:rebekah.brassfield@mso.umt.edu)) with the subject line "Field Technician – Invasive Species".