

Assistant Field Technician, Invasive Grass Species Mapping – Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge

The Spatial Analysis Lab (SAL) of the MT Natural Heritage Program, University of Montana is currently recruiting for an Assistant **Field Technician with Remote Sensing** to help survey parts of the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge (CMR NWR) for Japanese brome (*Bromus japonicas*), downy brome (*Bromus tectorum*), medusahead (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*), and African wiregrass (*Ventenata dubia*). The technician will be part of a two to four person survey team that will use adaptive sampling to characterize the distribution and abundance of invaders and inform presence /absence image classifications. The person selected for this position will be trained to integrate data collected from 6-day sampling “hitches” throughout the growing season with the development of image processing workflows that map invasion patterns for two collection sites that total ~ 287,000 acres.

Job Length: Seasonal support is available from late May to late August (05/2019 to 08/2019) for a total of approximately ~24 days in the field.

Compensation: \$12-16 per hour. Transportation is provided from Helena, MT to field site locations and a travel allowance is provided during field data collection.

Required Qualifications

- Vegetation survey experience and / or a Bachelor’s degree in geography, ecology or a related natural resources field
- Excellent organizational and communication skills, attention to detail and ability to follow protocol
- Valid driver’s license with a good driving record
- Professionalism, flexibility, and a positive attitude
- Current first aid / CPR certification

Preferred Qualifications

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Prior experience identifying rangeland vegetation

- Prior experience with field techniques, including GPS operations, transect sampling and vegetation cover estimation, and invertebrate surveys
- Experience working on vegetation classification projects and an interest in imaging spectroscopy

If you do not have current First Aid/CPR certification, you must become certified before field sampling begins. The field work schedule is subject to the weather, which may cause unpredictable days off and require some scheduling flexibility. Data collection may also require hiking up to several miles each day through sagebrush, over uneven terrain, and in very hot temperatures to reach some sampling sites; and driving a few hours each day in trucks over low maintenance roads.

To apply, please send a current resume and letter of interest to Jessica Mitchell (jessica.mitchell@mso.umt.edu) with the subject line “Invasive grass species mapping CMR NWR”. Applications will be considered until the position is filled. For more information about the Spatial Analyst Lab, please visit <http://www.umt.edu/spatial-analysis-lab/>.