

In cooperation with MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks, the University of Montana will be hiring 2-3 field technicians to perform vegetation sampling and assist with camera traps as part of a project investigating the long-term effects of burn severity on elk forage and nutrition. Duties will include sampling vegetation, and assisting with remote camera maintenance and fecal sample collections. Vegetation sampling will require technicians to identify Rocky Mountain forb, graminoid and shrub species using taxonomic keys and field guides. Sampling sites will be dispersed across front and backcountry areas, will often entail entailing difficult access, and will include some multi-day backpacking trips in grizzly bear country. Candidates must be capable of backpacking in steep, rugged terrain and comfortable working in grizzly bear country.

Field work will be based out of housing on the Blackfoot Clearwater Wildlife Management Area, approximately 50 miles east of Missoula near Seeley Lake, Montana. The study area encompasses state, federal, and private lands on and adjacent to the wildlife movement area, as well as the southern end of the Bob Marshall and Scapegoat Wilderness areas.

Successful applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be proficient in identification of primary rocky mountain plant species, capable of following specific sampling protocols, and able to perform detailed and accurate data collection and data entry.
- Be in good physical condition, capable of carrying several days' worth of gear, and comfortable working and camping in remote, grizzly bear country.
- Have experience safely operating 4WD vehicles in rough, mountainous terrain.
- Be willing and able to work as part of a team for long and irregular hours, likely based on a 4 day on, 3 day off schedule.
- Able to pass standard State of Montana background test.

Pay will be \$12-15/hour depending on experience, plus free housing at the field site. Field vehicles will be provided, as well as some field gear.

To apply, please send cover letter, resume, and contact information for 3 references to:

Ben Jimenez, at [BJimenez@mt.gov](mailto:BJimenez@mt.gov)