### General Information

1. **Introduction**

This requisition will provide funds to a Student Contractor to work on assessing the impacts of active and historic mining on waterbodies and riparian communities in the Pacific Northwest. The Student Contractor will assist in field data collection efforts, laboratory experiments, validation of data, analysis, and interpretive reporting.

1. **Description of Work**

The Student Contractor will be supervised and directed by the USGS Wyoming-Montana Water Science Center Helena Support Unit Chief. The Student Contractor will collect water-quality data, suspended sediment, biota and bed sediment, and continuous water quality at sites in the Kootenai Basin. The student contractor will also assist in laboratory experiments. The Student Contractor will be trained in the appropriate USGS field data collection methodologies by the project field lead. The contractor will participate in field activities that may require the contractor to spend 3 to 5 days in the field at a time at least once a month. All field and safety gear will be provided by the USGS. The USGS will provide safety training prior to the contractor conducting field work. The contractor will participate in virtual and in-person project meetings. The Student Contractor will be issued a USGS travel card for travel expenses.

The Student Contractor will assist in report preparation that synthesizes project work including data releases and USGS publications. The Student Contractor will be given training by the project lead and other project staff on scientific writing and publications. The USGS will furnish a computer for use during the length of the contracted period.

### Work Requirements

1. **Required Expertise & Skills**

Requirements include the following:

* Recent completion or near completion of an MS degree and experience with applying data analysis methods, and visualization techniques
* Coursework or relevant research experience in chemistry, biology, statistics, hydrology, and ecology
* Knowledge of a programming language (R or python preferred)
* Proficient writing and verbal skills

1. **Required level of education**

Student must have recently or about to complete a Master’s degree with a thesis.

1. **Compensation**

Student will be contracted as a student contractor, and compensation will be commensurate with the level of education and experience, as follows: $35.64 per hour for a recent graduate with an MS degree.

Student is responsible for all costs of transportation to and from the principal duty station location. The Government does not provide housing, meals, or other living expenses while working at the principal duty station. Transportation will be provided to and from field investigation site(s). Meals/cost of food while at field investigation sites will be provided by the USGS in the same manner as for federal employees, in accordance with the Government Travel Regulations.

### Supporting Information

1. **Working Condition**

Student can perform some work remotely; however, most of the work will be at the principal duty station or at the Kootenai basin field locations. Prolonged sitting at a computer or standing in a laboratory will be required. Field work may include light to moderate activity including wading in streams. The Student Contractor may experience inclement weather while working in the field.

1. **Special Considerations:**

None.

1. **Principal Duty Station:**

United States Geological Survey

Wyoming-Montana Water Science Center

3162 Bozeman Avenue

Helena, MT 59601

1. **USGS Project Supervisor**

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