



JOB DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE:	Seasonal Field Botanist
JOB LENGTH:	Full-time, summer 2016: beginning May 24th, ending in September.
COMPENSATION:	\$16-18 per hour plus per diem for days in field
JOB LOCATION:	Helena, but most of the work will be field-based throughout MT

SUMMARY OF POSITION:

The Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) serves as the state's principle source of information on species, habitats and landscapes of conservation concern. The Seasonal Field Botanist will be primarily working individually or as a team member to assist in MTNHP ecology field projects throughout Montana, although some office work in Helena may be required.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

Principle duties include 1) leading a vegetation sampling team in wetlands in both the Rocky Mountains and the Great Plains of Montana; 2) assisting in various duties related to the National Wetland Condition Assessment.

KNOWLEDGE/SKILLS:

- Bachelor's degree or experience in botany or a closely related subject
- A minimum of three field seasons identifying wetland and riparian plants to species as a principal botanist or crew leader
- Proven knowledge of Rocky Mountain and/or Great Plains flora
- Ability to use dichotomous keys accurately
- Proven experience working with complex protocols and data collection
- Familiarity with GPS and cameras

COMPLEXITY/PROBLEM SOLVING:

- Ability to collect and organize scientific data with attention to detail
- Duties require non-routine analysis and follow-through

DISCRETION/LATITUDE/DECISION-MAKING:

- Considerable opportunity to act independently
- Makes sound decisions based on analysis, experience and personal judgment

RESPONSIBILITY/OVERSIGHT – FINANCIAL & SUPERVISORY:

- May need to gain cooperation from individuals over whom there is no direct authority in order to accomplish assigned work

COMMUNICATIONS/INTERPERSONAL CONTACTS:

- Strong interpersonal skills and demonstrated experience working in a team setting
- Ability to effectively describe projects and activities to agency staff, private landowners and others

WORKING CONDITIONS/PHYSICAL EFFORT:

- Ability to work in variable weather conditions, remote locations and often in physically demanding circumstances. Valid driver's license, safe driving record, and current insurance.
- Willingness to work occasional long hours or extended periods in an isolated setting.
- Work may require extreme physical exertion and/or physical strain to the point of fatigue. Work environment involves exposure to job hazards, including moving water and wild animals, where there is a possibility of injury.
- Due to the relatively remote location of most field sites, the individual may need to camp for extended periods. In other cases, shared motel rooms will be provided. There is no housing available for non-working days.

ADDITIONAL DUTIES SPECIFIC TO THE POSITION:

- Work with an assessment crew locating pre-selected sampling locations, establishing plots, recording data, and other tasks involved in vegetation assessment and monitoring.
- Depending on qualifications, the individual may also identify areas of high ecological significance or perform other related field tasks.
- Perform office or field work as assigned relating to data entry, or other tasks.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

To apply, email a cover letter, resume, and contact information for 3 references to: jchutz@mt.gov

In your cover letter, explain your field and botanical experience, familiarity with wetland systems, and ability to meet overall job qualifications.

Application materials are due by April 1, 2016.

SUBMIT APPLICATION TO:

Jennifer Chutz

Ecologist/Project Manager

Montana Natural Heritage Program

jchutz@mt.gov

(406) 444-3500

www.mtnhp.org

*Electronic submissions preferred.