2 STUDENT FIELD & LAB ASSISTANT POSITIONS

Project: Vegetation Mapping of the Klamath Mountains Ecoregion
Faculty: Dr. Lucy Kerhoulas (Forestry) & Dr. Rosemary Sherriff (Geography)

Duration: 14 weeks: May 15, 2023 – August 18, 2023
Hours: 40 hours a week (full-time); generally worked in 10-hr shifts
Wage: $18.70/hour ($17/hr plus overtime rate for working 10-hr shifts)
Location: Based out of Arcata, CA with fieldwork throughout the Klamath Mountains Ecoregion
Bonus: Potential to work 5 hours per week through the Fall semester

Job Description: We are looking for two motivated research assistants to help graduate students with fieldwork and associated lab work this summer, and possibly through the Fall semester. This project is a collaboration with the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) and the California Department of Fish & Wildlife and aims to extensively map vegetation in the Klamath Mountains Ecoregion. Fieldwork will entail navigating to plots, hiking through rugged terrain, identifying plants, collecting a variety of vegetation data and samples, and various other lab-related tasks (e.g., data entry, gear maintenance, plant identification, herbarium mount preparations). Field assistants will work closely with graduate student and CNPS crew leaders who will coordinate and organize day-to-day activities. Rental vehicles and fuel reimbursements will be available for all work-related travel. These positions will be based out of Arcata, CA, with overnight camping in the Klamath Mountains throughout the work week. We will provide training for specific data collection methods, though experience taking standard botanical surveys is preferred.

Desired Qualifications:
- Enthusiasm, ability to go with the flow (there are lots of unknowns with this work), and a positive attitude
- Ability to work well with others in remote field settings for extended periods of time
- Ability to hike moderate distances in rugged terrain with a heavy backpack (30-40 pounds)
- Ability to work long days under physically challenging conditions (e.g., heat, steep slopes)
- Attention to detail, strong work ethic, and ability to follow protocols
- Valid driver’s license and agreement to complete Defensive Driver Training prior to job start
- Current student or recent graduate with coursework in Botany or a related field
  - Desired courses or equivalent/similar content: Plant Taxonomy, Plant Ecology, Applied Natural History & Ecology, Wildland Plant Communities, geospatial analysis
- Grade point average of 3.0 or greater
- Ability to navigate using maps and GPS
- Experience identifying plants and ability to use a dichotomous key (i.e., The Jepson Manual)
- Prior field/research experience outside of the classroom (volunteer or paid)
- Experience camping
- Wilderness First Aid or other related medical training, or willingness to take a course this Spring
- Access to basic personal camping equipment (e.g., tent, sleeping bag, backpack, flashlight)
- Ability to camp multiple nights in a row (might work four days on / three days off or eight days on / six days off)
To Apply: Email (as a single PDF or Word document): 1) a brief letter of interest (clearly state relevant education, experience, and interest in the position), 2) your resume (including GPA and complete contact information), and 3) the names and contact information of two references to Lucy Kerhoulas (lucy.kerhoulas@humboldt.edu) by March 24th. We are committed to hiring students that reflect the diversity of the residents of California and the students at Cal Poly Humboldt.