

CAL POLY HUMBOLDT

Department of Environmental Science and Management

1 Harpst Street, Arcata, CA 95521

Job Title: Ethnobotany Technician and Ecology Technician

No. of Openings: 2

Hours per Week: Part time (1 day per week or less) for continuing students, or full time (40 hrs per week) for recent graduates. Full time during the summer.

Wage/Salary: \$18 per hour for students, \$19 per hour for recent graduates

Employment Start Date: Ethnobotany technician will begin on or around Feb 1 for 10-20 hours total then no work until the end of the semester. Ecology Technician may begin on or around March 1. Flexible workload for students (approximately 1 day per week) until the end of spring semester, with full time summer employment.

Supervisor: Dr. Kerry Byrne, but employee(s) will be working closely under the direction of the BLM Arcata Field Office Ecologist, and other BLM employees, as necessary.

Job Description:

We seek to hire one Ethnobotany technician and one Ecology technician through this job announcement. The employees will be hired and paid by Cal Poly Humboldt but will directly work with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Arcata Field Office as hosted workers, supporting the needs of the Botany, Range, Invasive Weeds, and Archeology Departments. Persons with effective communication and interpersonal skills that are confident working in the field independently and as a team in remote conditions are highly desired. The selected individuals will maintain regular communication between BLM, partners (including Tribes), and Cal Poly Humboldt key personnel. The employees will serve a variety of duties including:

- (1) Ethnobotany technician will engage with Tribal partners to identify culturally important plant species that may occur on BLM-managed public lands. For example, Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria has been working with the BLM to identify plant species that are useful for basketweaving at the King Range National Conservation Area. One idea proposed by the Tribe is to coppice willow along the Mattole River system. The ethnobotany technician will be involved with continued conversations about mapping and prescribed treatment of vegetation areas that are potentially desirable for traditional gathering and practices. There may be opportunities to engage with other Tribes to discuss potential management and use of culturally important plant species on other public lands managed by BLM.
- (2) Working with BLM, Tribes, and other partners on community event projects geared towards natural and cultural resources management.
- (3) Native plant scouting, mapping, and collections on BLM lands.
- (4) Scouting, mapping and treatments of non-native species using manual removal methods.

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- (5) Assisting implementation of restoration projects including site preparation, planting native species, casting seed and site cleanup.
- (6) Data management including entering data into appropriate databases.
- (7) Collecting photo points and managing photo records for individual projects and progress tracking.

Employees will need to successfully complete a DOI background check to be issued access to government property including the building, vehicles and laptops. The selected candidates will have the option to operate a government (or private) motor vehicle as part of your official duties; a valid driver's license is required.

Physical Demands:

The work includes long drives to site locations that may be up to 5 hours one way, hiking on uneven and steep terrain, bending, crouching, hand pulling seed and the occasional task that includes heavy lifting.

Working Conditions:

The work is performed in an office, remotely and in the field. This position is 90% in the field during peak season. Visits to other agencies, organizations and other professional settings will occur. Fieldwork includes exposure to extreme weather conditions and terrain, poisonous plants, biting insects, and wild animals.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Current student or recent Cal Poly Humboldt graduate.
- Ecology Technician: completion or current student of plant taxonomy (BOT 350), applied natural history and ecology (ESM 303), or wildland plant communities (RRS 360).
- Ethnobotany Technician: completion or current student of general botany (BOT 105) and one or more NAS course.
- Both positions: completion of some geospatial coursework, ability to use a dichotomous key to identify plants.

- Willing to complete a federal background check.
- Have a valid driver's license, and willing to drive a federal vehicle for work.
- Willing to work long days with arduous fieldwork, hiking off trail, and variable hours.
- Ability to work as part of a team and independently.
- Capable of navigating to field locations using a GPS unit, field maps, or Avenza Maps.
- Flexibility to change focus and work on multiple projects at once.
- Ability to use a dichotomous key to identify plants (Ecology Technician position).
- Problem solving skills.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Availability for full time work during the summer and potential for 1 – 2 days per week during academic year (if continuing student).

- Ethnobotany Technician: completion or current student of one or more of the following: Indigenous natural resource management practices (NAS 331), plant taxonomy (BOT 350), plant ecology (BOT 330), applied natural history & ecology (ESM 303), wildland plant communities (RRS 360), and cultural anthropology (ANTH 104) or equivalent.

Application Instructions:

Please submit a resume and brief cover letter. In your cover letter please address the following: (1) career goals and why you are interested in the position; (2) your availability for the summer and capacity to work 1-2 days per week during the academic year; (3) previous experience working/spending time outdoors in extreme weather conditions and terrain; (4) description of relevant work experience; and (5) contact information for 2 professional references (one must be a Cal Poly Humboldt professor) to Dr. Kerry Byrne, Environmental Science and Management, at Kerry.Byrne@humboldt.edu.

For the Ethnobotany Position, due to the nature of this research working with Indigenous knowledge and communities, preference will be given to Indigenous or underrepresented students or recent graduates.

Initial application review will begin on January 31 and finalists will be contacted to interview with Kerry Byrne and the BLM Ecologist, Crystal Kunz.

Cal Poly Humboldt Sponsored Programs Foundation is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex including sexual orientation and gender identity, national origin, disability, protected Veteran Status, or any other legally protected status. More information about Cal Poly Humboldt SPF's Equal Employment Opportunity hiring can be found here.

For assistance with the application process, please submit an Accommodation Request Form, which can be found here or contact ADA Coordinator at 707.826.3626 or confidential fax at 707.826.3625. For more information regarding accommodation, you may also visit the Cal Poly Humboldt Human Resources website at <https://hraps.humboldt.edu/reasonable-accommodation>. Individuals in need of a telecommunications relay service may contact the California Relay Service at 877.735.2929 TTY.