

### 3 STUDENT FIELD ASSISTANT POSITIONS

**Project: Vegetation Mapping of the Klamath Mountains Ecoregion**

**Faculty: Lucy Kerhoulas (Forestry), Rosemary Sherriff (Geography), & Erik Jules (Biology)**



Photo credit: Michael Kauffmann

**Duration:** 12 weeks: May 20 – August 13, 2025

**Hours:** 40 hours a week (full-time) generally worked in 10-hr shifts on multi-day hitches

**Wage:** \$18/hr; if work overtime in field as 10-hr shifts, totals to \$20/hr

**Location:** Based out of Arcata, CA with fieldwork throughout the Klamath Mountains Ecoregion

**Bonus:** Potential to work 10 hours per week through the Fall semester helping process summer data

**Job Description:** We are looking for three 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 crew leaders who will coordinate and organize day-to-day activities. Rental vehicles, fuel, and camping expenses will be covered 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. Some positions will work on crews that involve backpacking to remote locations.

### Desired Qualifications:

#### General

- Attention to detail, strong work ethic, and ability to follow protocols
- Current student or recent graduate
- Grade point average of 3.0 or greater

#### Field

- 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 long 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)
- Ability to navigate using maps and GPS
- Prior field/research experience outside of the classroom (volunteer or paid)
- Experience identifying plants and ability to use a dichotomous key (i.e., The Jepson Manual)
- Experience camping and ideally backpacking
- Wilderness First Aid or other related medical training
- 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)
- Valid driver's license and agreement to complete Defensive Driver Training prior to job start
- Desired coursework: Plant Taxonomy, Plant Ecology, Applied Natural History & Ecology, Wildland Plant Communities, geospatial analysis (or equivalents)

**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](mailto:lucy.kerhoulas@humboldt.edu)) by **February 21**. We are committed to hiring students that reflect the diversity of the residents of California and the students at Cal Poly Humboldt.