



Timber Stand Improvement (Contract Inspection) Crew Lead – Eldorado National Forest, Northern CA
Great Basin Institute / US Forest Service Eldorado National Forest

Description:

The Great Basin Institute, in cooperation with the US Forest Service Eldorado National Forest, is recruiting three Timber Stand Improvement Crew Leads to work cooperatively with USFS and GBI staff to perform inspection of contracted vegetation management and restoration projects within forest/woodland areas. This work provides professional development opportunities in standard forest management practices while supporting USFS initiatives for healthy and productive forest landscapes and resources. Duties will principally involve inspecting outcomes of fuels reduction, planting, and weed treatments.

Projects to improve the condition of targeted areas on USFS lands will be done by contractors; GBI Timber Stand Improvement (Contract Inspection) crews conduct compliance checks while contractors are on site. Inspection criteria for planting include assessment of: spacing between trees, site selection and preparation, stem position, planting depth, seedling firmness, species mixture, and root configuration and condition. Inspection criteria for herbicide application include foliar inspections and checks of herbicide spray rates, as well as monitoring other factors such as wind speed and precipitation. Additional duties include site preparation (debris removal and flagging), some felling of small-diameter trees and brush trimming (involves chainsaw use), and some pesticide application. Training will be provided in chainsaw operation, pesticide application, and other project-specific techniques.

Three two-person Timber Stand Improvement (Contract Inspection) crews, comprising one crew lead and one crew member per crew, will perform this work in coordination with USFS. Please note that, for several consecutive weeks at a time, the work schedule of GBI crews aligns with the work schedule of contractors when the contractors are on site. During these phases, extensive overtime (up to 12 hours per day for up to six consecutive days) is expected.

Leadership responsibilities of this position include communication with USFS and GBI staff, maintaining safety awareness and practices in the field, scheduling, logistics, and overseeing fidelity to methods and quality of outcomes. Camping at a work site for several days may be required to meet project objectives.

Compensation and Timeline:

- Rate of Pay: \$20.00/hour (\$30.00/hour for any time worked over 40 hours/week)
- Premium for comprehensive health insurance fully paid (eligible to enroll on 1 April)
- Paid leave and holidays
- Camping per diem: \$15.00
- Duration: March-October 2020
- Full time, 40 hours/week; extensive overtime (paid at 1.5 times the regular rate) will be required for several consecutive weeks at a time throughout the field season.

Location: Work will take place on the Eldorado National Forest (NF), Amador Ranger District, near Pioneer, CA (60 miles east of Sacramento). Located in the central Sierra Nevada, the Eldorado NF is bordered on the east by the Lake Tahoe Basin and the Humboldt-Toiyabe NF, and by the Tahoe and

Stanislaus NFs to the north and south, respectively. Recreational and sight-seeing opportunities abound in the vicinity.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree (minimum) in Forestry or a closely related field, plus applicable field experience in techniques for timber stand improvement;
- Knowledge of the mixed conifer forests typical of eastern California, including common plants (woody and herbaceous), wildlife, and/or geology/topography;
- Experience in chainsaw operation and pesticide application;
- Experience leading forestry crews in the field, including oversight of safety, communication, fidelity to methods, and quality of accomplishments;
- Ability to communicate effectively, both written and orally, with a diverse audience;
- Experience using ArcGIS to create maps preferred;
- Ability to navigate and collect data using handheld GPS units;
- Proficiency using a compass and topographic map to navigate;
- Possess a clean, valid, state-issued driver's license with ability to safely operate and maintain a 4WD vehicle on and off paved roads;
- Ability to live and work in rural and remote field and office setting;
- Physically fit to work outdoors, carry up to 50 pounds of field equipment and personal gear, and withstand the rigors of a forested and/or high desert environment in all seasons;
- Willingness and ability to work extensive overtime hours for several consecutive weeks multiple times during the field season;
- Willingness and ability to camp in remote, primitive sites for several consecutive days;
- Familiarity with best practices for field safety and Leave No Trace principles; and
- Willingness and ability to consistently enact high performance standards and a strong work and team ethic in support of the mission of GBI and the goals and objectives of the USFS.

To apply: Please follow this link to apply directly through our online portal:

<https://www.vsciberhosting.com/greatbasin/careers.aspx?rf=EB&req=2020-RAP-001>

We conform to all the laws, statutes, and regulations concerning equal employment opportunities and affirmative action. We strongly encourage women, minorities, individuals with disabilities and veterans to apply to all of our job openings. We are an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin, age, disability status, Genetic Information & Testing, Family & Medical Leave, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law. We prohibit Retaliation against individuals who bring forth any complaint, orally or in writing, to the employer or the government, or against any individuals who assist or participate in the investigation of any complaint or otherwise oppose discrimination.