

Forest Inventory and Analysis – Hourly Position

ABOUT THIS JOB

The USFS Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) is a congressionally authorized program that partners with CSFS within Warner College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University. This collaborative partnership's mission of making and keeping current a comprehensive inventory of the Nation's forests so that policy makers, land managers and owners, investors, and other nongovernmental groups have timely and accurate information about the health and productivity of forests in the U.S. The geographic focus of this partnership is Colorado, Wyoming and Interior West.

DUTIES

These positions are with the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) FIA Program. This FIA unit is part of a nationwide US Forest Service program which collects, processes, analyzes, evaluates, and publishes comprehensive information on forest resources. Field-based measurements occur on permanent plots that are located on a systematic grid across public and private ownership. Data collected from these inventories are based on tree measurements, forest health parameters, understory vegetation composition, habitat types, down dead woody material, silvicultural practices, natural disturbances, and land ownership.

The Forestry Technician reports directly to and assists each FIA Crew Leader with ecological field inventories. There is an expectation to work and communicate as a productive and safe team in remote locations. This incumbent will help locate permanent field plots with road navigation, interpreting maps and aerial photos, determining scale of aerial photos, running compass lines, chaining/pacing distances, and using GPS equipment. The incumbent will be responsible for measuring forest inventory variables related to percent ground cover, tree diameters, tree heights, tree vigor, tree status, and fire fuel loading. Duties will also include measurements involving vegetation diversity and soil and erosion data.

To accomplish the fieldwork, the Forest Technicians will need to carry backpacks with 35+ pounds of work and personal gear across steep terrain ranging in elevation from 3,500 to 14,000 feet in potentially inclement weather conditions. In certain circumstances, the incumbent should be comfortable traveling on horseback and ATV. Extensive travel throughout Colorado and Wyoming is expected, requiring frequent stays in hotels and backcountry camping.

POSITION LOCATION

Fort Collins, Grand Junction, Canon City, Steamboat Springs, Durango, Gunnison

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- Ability to carry a 45+ pound pack while hiking in elevations ranging from 3,000 to 14,000 feet
- Familiar with identification of western tree and shrub species

PREFERRED REQUIREMENTS

- Experience with topographic maps, compass, and aerial photos for navigation, interpreting cover types, identifying point locations, and navigating in wilderness situations
- Capable of using GPS units to navigate and collect field data
- Basic proficiency using spatial databases, remote sensing technology (ArcGIS software), and Microsoft Office Suite (e.g., Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Office 365)

- Demonstrated proficiency in plant identification and experience with Rocky Mountain flora Understanding and experienced with basic field forestry skills related to timber cruising
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills, including working with the public
- Ability to keep track of weekly work hours and work-related expenses
- Ability to work unusual schedules with frequent travel
- Experience implementing diverse ecological, forestry, and fuels field sampling methods, and knowledge of sampling equipment, procedures and QA/QC protocols

ABOUT CSFS

The Colorado State Forest Service at Colorado State University is hiring several temporary full-time staff positions to assist with coordination and data collection for our research and monitoring fieldwork projects. The term of the position is seasonal and of variable length, typically May through October 2021, with potential for extension dependent upon funding. Positions will be hired periodically as funding and work needs require throughout the field season, ranging in responsibility levels from field crew technicians to assistant crew leaders and crew leaders. The position duties are approximately 65 to 85% conducting fieldwork and 15-35% project management, coordination, and supervision of field crew technicians. These positions are focused on supporting our field data collection efforts, but there are ample opportunities to grow and work on diverse tasks at the interface of research and management to achieve all facets of the CSFS's mission of healthy and resilient forests.

PAY

\$15.00 to \$19.00 commensurate with experience. Overtime will be made available.

EMPLOYMENT DATES

Expected range of employment will be from mid-May 2021 thru the end of October 2021. Actual length of employment is dependent upon workload, weather, and other factors.

BACKGROUND CHECK POLICY

Colorado State University strives to provide a safe study, work, and living environment for its faculty, staff, volunteers and students. To support this environment and comply with applicable laws and regulations, CSU conducts background checks. The type of background check conducted varies by position and can include, but is not limited to, criminal history, sex offender registry, motor vehicle history, financial history, and/or education verification. Background checks will also be conducted when required by law or contract and when, in the discretion of the University, it is reasonable and prudent to do so.

The mission of the Colorado State Forest Service is to achieve stewardship of Colorado's diverse forest environments for the benefit of present and future generations. We are a service and outreach agency of the Warner College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University (CSU).

To Apply:

Please send electronic versions of Resume, cover letter, and three (3) professional references to the email address below:

David.Hanley@colostate.edu

A copy of this announcement is posted on the CSFS website at: <http://csfs.colostate.edu/employment>

CSU is an EO/EA/AA employer. Colorado State University conducts background checks on all final candidates.