

Position Announcement
Vegetation Management Technician Apprentice

Location: Mineral, CA - with project work in Lassen Volcanic National Park

Season Dates: May/June to September/October (*season dependent on weather conditions; start/end dates may be flexible for those with scheduling conflicts*)

Compensation: \$18.50/hr (commensurate with experience) and reduced cost housing at Park Headquarters

Benefits: paid sick, holiday, and wildfire mitigation leave

Training: systematic botany, plant identification, survey methodology, herbicide application, and Wilderness First Aid.

Position Description

The Sierra Institute for Community and Environment (Sierra Institute), in cooperation with Lassen Volcanic National Park (LAVO), is hiring two Vegetation Management Technician Apprentices (Vegetation Technicians) to work with and assist the LAVO Vegetation Management Team in all tasks associated with native plant monitoring and restoration as well as non-native plant control in the park. The work will include surveys for native and invasive plants, invasive plant control, restoration of disturbed areas, seeding and seed collection, and preparing additional sites for restoration. Invasive plant control will be done using both manual and chemical control techniques, which will include the spraying of herbicide. This is a great opportunity to learn about the diverse flora species that inhabit the park and surrounding areas while honing plant identification skills through hands-on monitoring, control, and restoration. The applicant should be capable of hiking up to six miles daily while carrying a pack weighing up to forty pounds.

The position offers a unique opportunity to visit a large area of the park and includes work in some of the most sensitive and beautiful areas within its boundaries. The Vegetation Management Technicians may also participate in similar activities to advance other collaborative restoration projects in Plumas and Lassen Counties. There will be opportunities to join other resource management crews and gain experience in numerous other tasks. This position is part of an exciting partnership between Sierra Institute for Community and Environment and Lassen Volcanic NP to complete a variety of important vegetation management activities.

Responsibilities

Implementation

The incumbent works as team member to safely apply herbicide, utilize mechanical and non-mechanical control methods for a range of invasive plant species to perform fundamental vegetation management tasks to preserve and protect native plant communities. Invasive plant management is essential to all native plant conservation and this project will provide an incredible opportunity for the incumbent to gain critical skills that may lead to future work in national parks throughout the western US. The position is considered a developmental opportunity and will train the individual in proven and common methods of invasive plant control as well as provide additional training in systematic botany and plant identification.

P.O. Box 11 | 4438 Main Street | Taylorsville, CA 95983
www.Sierrainstitute.us

(530) 284-1022 **Phone**
(530) 284-1023 **Fax**

Operations and Safety

The work required of the incumbent involves objective hazards. The incumbent is expected to practice situational awareness, directly addressing and/or raising safety concerns as they arise. Training will be provided to ensure the incumbent's ability to safely execute job functions. The incumbent will assist in equipment management, including tool repair, and maintenance.

Qualifications

Required

- Minimum of a high school diploma with educational, professional, or volunteer experience in natural resource management, wildlife conservation, or related fields;
- Must be 18 to apply;
- Demonstrated interest in wildlife or other natural resource management, this may include but is not limited to biological research and survey work, land conservation, wildland fire, etc.;
- Ability to perform physically taxing work in all weather conditions in rugged mountainous environments (i.e hike 6+ miles a day with a 40lb pack);
- Knowledgeable and proficient in backcountry travel;
- Sufficient equipment to perform the work, including sturdy shoes and appropriate clothing for a range of environments;
- Good communication skills to effectively interact with the public and co-workers;
- Interest in, or familiarity with, principles of vegetation management, botany, or invasive plant biology;
- A valid driver's license and access to reliable transportation;

Preferred

- Bachelor's degree, Associates degree, or professional certificate in Forestry, Natural Resource Management, Ecological Restoration or related field(s);
- Experience working as part of a field crew or team, experience with safety management, and experience collecting and managing field data;
- Knowledge of, or familiarity with botany and plant identification in California or other western states;
- Any current wilderness medical training certification (e.g., WFA, WFR, WEMT);
- Leave No Trace or other backcountry ethics training;
- Interest in, or familiarity with, plant species of the southern Cascades;

Skills or experiences that can fill in for qualifications will be considered.

We invite all interested parties to apply including those belonging to Tribal communities, women, POC, and LGBTQ+ persons.

Compensation

Compensation is \$18.50 per hour for up to 26 weeks. Health benefits through Sierra Institute are not available for this position, but may be obtained through Covered California (<http://www.coveredca.com/>). Field staff will be provided monthly sick time, paid holidays, and a set number of paid wildfire mitigation leave. Paid wildfire mitigation leave is intended to mitigate work days impacted by wildfire and smoke.



Necessary training will be provided, including systematic botany, plant identification, survey methodology, herbicide application, and Wilderness First Aid.

Housing is available for a fee in Mineral, CA at the Lassen Volcanic NP headquarters.

About the Sierra Institute

The Sierra Institute promotes healthy forests, watersheds, and communities by investing in the well-being of rural communities and strengthening their participation in natural resource management. Our work supports initiatives that simultaneously benefit the environment, economy, and equity within a given landscape. Sierra Institute is located in Taylorsville, CA (population 154), and lies within an area referred to as “Indian Valley” that includes the communities of Greenville and Crescent Mills. Indian Valley offers uniquely rural community events and is surrounded by public lands including Plumas and Lassen National Forests.

How to Apply

Please send your cover letter, resume, and contact information for three references as **one PDF** to jobs@sierrainstitute.us with “Vegetation Management Technician” in the subject line. Please include where you heard about the job in the text of the email (please be as specific as possible). Position is open until filled, applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Please call 530.284.1022 or email jobs@sierrainstitute.us if you have questions.