

Position Announcement Botany Technician

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: \$19/hr

Benefits: paid sick, holiday, and wildfire mitigation leave

Housing: Shared housing may be available for rent at the Park.

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 one Botany Technician to work with ecological restoration projects. The work will include tracking and collection of Whitebark Pine (*Pinus albicaulis*), surveys for invasive plants, restoration of disturbed areas, seeding and seed collection, and preparing additional sites for restoration. The applicant should be capable of hiking up to six miles daily while carrying a pack weighing up to forty pounds. The position is a field position and will get to visit a large area of the park and include work in some of the most sensitive and beautiful areas.

This is a great opportunity to learn the plants of the southern Cascades and northern Sierra Nevada, as well as brush up on plant identification skills using dichotomous keys. 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 restoration planning and implementation activities in the National Park.

Responsibilities

Implementation

The Botany technician works as team member to assist with the collection of seeds from Whitebark pine trees, conduct a range of botanical surveys, utilize mechanical and non-mechanical control methods for ecological restoration of native plant communities in Lassen Volcanic NP. 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.

Operations and Safety

The work required of the incumbent involves objective hazards to post-fire, alpine, and sub-alpine environments. 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

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

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

Promoting healthy and sustainable forests and watersheds by investing in the well-being of rural communities and strengthening their participation in natural resource decision-making and programs.

- Minimum of a high school diploma; preferred college or community college experience; must be 18 to apply;
- Demonstrated interest in forest 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 5+ miles a day with a 30lb 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;
- Proof of full COVID-19 Vaccination (vaccinations and up to date boosters).

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;
- 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 \$19 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 may be available for a fee in Lassen Volcanic NP staff housing quarters.

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

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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.

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