



USDA Forest Service Resource Assistant Program

Position. Ecologist/Botanist

Duration. 8 Month Fellowship (32 weeks): Starting June 2023 – February 2024 (dates are dependent upon the start date)

Location. Cordova Ranger District, Cordova, Alaska

Reports To. Erin Cooper, PWSZ Ecology, Wildlife and Forestry Staff

Job Overview

This position will work with the Ecology team on the Prince William Sound Zone. This position will include plant surveys, invasive assessments, aquatic invasive species monitoring, outreach and education and data analysis and report writing.

Responsibilities and Duties

- Elodea monitoring on the Copper River Delta using drysuits and packrafts. This effort takes about two weeks a month during the summer including data entry.
- Invasive species monitoring and treatments. We work collaboratively with a local non profit to address invasive concerns and both manual and chemical treatments (chemical treatments conducted by partners).
- Community engagement. We have a variety of opportunities to outreach to the public in collaboration with local events as well as developing walks and talks and then culminating during the summer with our local Fungus Festival.
- Ecological assessments. This would involve plant identification, dirt turning project effects on ecological systems and mitigation measure such as native seed dispersal.

Qualifications

- A degree in Botany or Ecology (plant focused). Masters is preferred but bachelors may be accepted.
- Plant Identification Skills
- Physical fitness. This position requires long days outside in the summer and potential to hike long distances carrying a pack when needed.
- Comfortable working from boats including both power and human powered (packrafts)



MANRRS

- Comfortable working in remote field camps or on boat based field camp platforms for up to 10 days away from town.

Minimum Requirements

- Completion of 2 years at an accredited university, an Associate's degree, or higher
- US citizenship or permanent residency. RAs must undergo a government background check if selected.
- Participation in US Forest Service Orientation Training scheduled for June 2023