2024 Fire Research Field Assistants (6-7)

Assist with field data collection for Cal Poly Humboldt Wildland Fire Lab on fire ecology and management

We are looking for up to six or seven motivated and curious field assistants to assist the Cal Poly Humboldt Wildland Fire Lab on a few research projects investigating restoration or fuels treatments in old-growth ponderosa pine forest at Crater Lake National Park (1-2) in partnership with Louisiana Tech, secondary redwood forests following wildfire in Redwood National Park (1), and Baker cypress at multiple locations in northern California (3-4). Field research will entail navigating to plots, collecting a variety of tree and fuels measurements, as well as other tasks. Assistants should be able to hike short to moderate distances across uneven and steep terrain, tolerate hot/humid weather conditions, and be willing to tent camp for up to four days at a time. A rental vehicle will be available for work-related travel. These positions will be based out of Arcata, CA (redwood and Baker Cypress projects) or southern Oregon (Crater Lake project), with overnight camping near field sites occurring Monday-Thursday during the field season. We will provide training for specific data collection methods, though experience with forest, fuels, and vegetation measurements is preferred.

Salary and Duration
- $17-$18 per hour (depending on experience) for ~10-12 weeks (mid-May- mid-August)

Required Qualifications
- Valid driver’s license and ability to complete defensive driver training
- Grade point average of 3.0 or greater on a 4.0 scale
- Previous coursework or work experience in Forestry, Fire Management, Ecology, or a related field
- Ability to navigate using maps and GPS
- Research interest and field experience in forestry, ecology, or related field
- Positive attitude and ability to work well with others in remote field sites for extended periods

Preferred Qualifications
- Wilderness First Aid or other related medical training
- Experience and knowledge regarding safe driving practices in remote, mountainous areas
- Prior experience identifying shrub and tree species northern California/southern Oregon
- Previous camping experience

HOW TO APPLY
To apply, send (as a PDF or Word Document): 1) a resume (including GPA and complete contact information); 2) a brief letter of interest (clearly state relevant education, experience, and interest in the position); 3) unofficial transcripts, and 4) the names and contact information of three references in one email to Jeff Kane (jkane@humboldt.edu). Applications are due by February 15th. Incomplete applications may not be considered.