

Quantitative Research Ecologist Contractor

The USGS Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center is seeking a quantitative ecologist to co-develop a study design to understand how various habitat treatments influence pollinator and possibly other wildlife communities. The ecologist will be expected to 1) use hierarchical modeling techniques to assess power of various study designs, 2) simulate and analyze data (e.g., occupancy models or community occupancy models), 3) manipulate large, spatial datasets, 4) prepare manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed journals, 5) communicate with partners to identify and integrate multiple objectives into an optimal study design. There are also opportunities for collaboration on pollinator, ungulate, or carnivore projects. Ideal candidate has a strong background in applied math and statistics as well as a demonstrated record of applying quantitative approaches to applied questions in ecology.

Position is open to current graduate students or recent graduates eligible to work as a student contractor (MS or PhD preferred). Graduates that completed their degree within the past year are eligible to work as student contractors. Contracts can cover up to 1 (PhD) or 2 (MS) years of work. The start date, hours (30-40) and work location are negotiable (remote or West Glacier, MT); applicants that can start Jan 2024 are preferred. We seek to create a diverse team.

If interested, please send your resume, cover letter, and contact information for 3 or more references to Tabitha Graves, tgraves@usgs.gov. Please include your dates of availability and graduation date in the cover letter. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Wages range from ~\$24.08-\$35.64/hr depending on experience and federal rate.

Requirements:

- Analyses of hierarchical models (e.g., occupancy, abundance models accounting for detection)
- Strong quantitative analytical skills
- Strong scientific writing skills
- U.S. citizen

Desirable qualifications:

- Proficiency in R, JAGS, NIMBLE or similar
- Expertise in hierarchical models, Bayesian approaches, advanced statistics
- Expertise in relational databases, large data management
- Expertise in community and population ecology
- Expertise in pollination ecology and vegetation
- Expertise in disturbance ecology, restoration, fire, weed treatments, or grazing
- Expertise in prairie and sagebrush systems
- Record of publication in peer-reviewed journals
- MS or PhD in ecology, wildlife science, statistics, or related degree