



Background information

Since 2005, [The Watershed Center](#), a Boulder County based non-profit, has been protecting and restoring watersheds for people and the environment using a collaborative and science-based approach. We pursue our mission across four core programs: Forest, River, Science, and Community. Through these programs, we respond to the needs of our watersheds and communities. Over time these needs have included mine impacts, river restoration, adaptive management, fish passage, fire recovery, stewardship, outreach, education, monitoring, and forest management, among many others. Today our watersheds are facing increasing risk from wildfires and we are supporting our communities and ecosystems with science-informed planning and decision-making in how we prioritize projects and manage watersheds.

Position details

The Watershed Center is seeking a short-term contract botanist to assist with vegetation monitoring across Boulder County at river and forest management project sites. Forest sites are located across ponderosa pine, lodgepole pine, and aspen forests and meadows between 7000-9000 feet in elevation. River sites are located near Lyons, CO, and Allenspark, CO.

Ideal start date is mid-July to early August (can be flexible). Field work will last approximately 80 hours and data entry and QA/QC is expected to approximately 20 hours.

Primary duties

- Lead the identification of forest and riparian vegetation species at sites across Boulder County.
- Use dichotomous keys and/or field guides to identify unknown species in the field.
- Take and curate photos of transect locations.
- Record field data, enter data into databases, and curate databases to include associated species information (e.g., common names, full scientific names, native status, growth forms, durations).

Desired skills and experience

- Experience with ecological field data collection and the aptitude to learn new protocols.
- Proficient in botany and experience collecting species IDs using USDA four and six letter codes. Previous experience with Boulder County forest and riparian species is a plus.
- Experience using dichotomous keys to identify unknown species.
- Ability to proactively communicate regarding status of data collection, field schedule, etc.
- Experience using the USDA plant list and website to record native status, growth form, and duration.
- Experience with data entry in Microsoft Excel.
- Must have own vehicle, mileage reimbursement available.



Working Conditions

Work is performed outside during the day, under varying and extreme weather conditions, and could include frequent driving of employee's personal vehicle. Field conditions will include steep, unstable terrain, proximity to fast-moving water, proximity to highway traffic, and typical conditions associated with travel in the foothills and plains of the Rocky Mountain region. Work includes but is not limited to exposure to sun, noise, dust, fumes, smoke, gases, and oils, moving vehicles, lifting and carrying up to 50 pounds, bending, stooping, squatting, crawling, kneeling, pulling, pushing, reaching overhead and above shoulders, use of both hand and fingers, climbing stairs and ladders, walking, standing, and sitting for extended periods of time. Coordination of eyes, hands, legs, and body is needed. Must have correctable near and far vision, ability to hear, speak, and write. Work also includes the ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions, and the ability to utilize communication equipment.

Salary details

\$25-\$35 per hour depending on experience. Mileage reimbursement (from The Watershed Center office location in Longmont to and from field sites) up to \$500 available at the federal rate.

Application submission

Please email your cover letter and resume combined into a single PDF labeled:

"Lastname_Firstname_Botanist" to: applywatershedcenter@gmail.com with the subject line "**Short-term Botanist Application.**" The cover letter should clearly demonstrate the applicants' ability to fulfill the stated duties and meet the qualifications of the position.

Review of applications will be on-going with priority given to applications received on or before **June 21, 2024**. The position will remain open until filled. The Watershed Center reserves the right to modify this timeline as needed.