

FIELD CREW LEAD

University of Washington, School of Environmental & Forest Sciences

Job Location: Seattle, WA (Pacific Wildland Fire Sciences Lab)
Closing Info: Open until filled
Salary: \$3500-4000 per month, 40 hours per week (Overtime Eligible)
Duration: 6 months, with potential to extend. Start date in early June 2020

Position Purpose

This incumbent leads a small crew in the collection and processing of data for scientific research conducted by the Fire and Environmental Research Applications Team. There are multiple existing projects for field data collection. Projects include, but are not limited to, characterization of wildland fuels in multiple locations throughout the United States (including the southeastern and western US); evaluation of fuel consumption during prescribed burns, and post-fire tree damage inventory. This data will be used to assess fuels modeling methods, and evaluate the overall predictive capability of fuels and fire behavior models. Data collection includes identification and physical measurements of trees, shrubs, understory plants, downed woody debris, litter, and ground fuels, and collection of fuel samples for laboratory processing.

Work Environment

This position will require outdoor work in conditions that may include steep and rough terrain, dense vegetation, inclement weather, and biting insects. Field work may involve physical exertion, such as walking in steep terrain, lifting and carrying equipment and samples, working in inclement weather, exposure to smoke during prescribed fires, or similar activities. Individuals should be capable of working alone or with other people during early morning to early evening hours. Field work will require travel for extended periods of 7 to 14 days, and is frequently scheduled with little advance notice. Incumbent may fly and drive rental vehicles, or use Forest Service pickup trucks to access field locations. Accommodations may include camping, hotels, or common living spaces such as barracks or house rentals.

Responsibilities

- Lead field crew in fuels data and sample collection efforts, maintaining a safe work environment. (50%)
- Supervise technicians, interns, and students in the laboratory and office, including: overseeing sample processing, overseeing accurate data entry and quality control of data, assisting with supervising employee time and work scheduling, coordinate employee travel arrangements and documentation for reimbursement, arrange training and development opportunities. (25%)
- Maintain up to date inventory of lab equipment and supplies, oversee maintenance of existing equipment and purchasing of new equipment and supplies. (10%)
- Assist with development of field and laboratory data collection protocols. (5%)
- Make and document decisions in the field regarding data collection techniques. (5%)

- Performs related duties as required. (5%)

Specific knowledge, skills and abilities required to perform the job satisfactorily include (2-3 years experience):

- Experience supervising field crews in the accurate collection of detailed forestry, fuels, or fire effects data.
- Experience supervising and conducting data entry into databases using complex protocols, quality control of large volumes of data.
- Experience maintaining a large inventory of lab equipment and supplies.
- Experience supervising field crew time and work scheduling, coordinating employee travel arrangements and documentation, arranging training and development opportunities.
- Demonstrated ability to work safely and supervise others in remote and challenging terrain.
- Demonstrated ability to conduct research-grade environmental measurements in forest and fire environments.
- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively in written and oral form, and excellent organizational abilities.
- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively in a team environment.
- Demonstrated ability to work in active fire environments.
- Ability to be flexible in the face of changing field schedules and priorities, comfortable with regular travel over extended periods
- Sincere interest in learning about natural resource management applications and fire and smoke science.

Other Requirements

- Experience managing and processing field samples in laboratory settings, including maintaining samples in appropriate storage environments.
- Current Wilderness First Aid certification
- National Interagency Fire Coordination Center Incident Qualification as Fire Fighter Type 2 (FFT2)
- Position requires a valid state driver's license and clean driving record.
- Candidate must be capable of passing the National Wildfire Coordinating Group Work Capacity Test at the arduous level

Knowledge, skills and abilities that are desirable, providing for an enhanced level of job performance, include:

- Wildland Fire Chainsaw certification (S212 or equivalent)
- Wilderness First Responder certification
- National Interagency Fire Coordination Center Incident Qualification as Fire Fighter Type 1 (FFT1) and/or Fire Effects Monitor (FEMO)
- Experience with management and analysis of remotely sensed data

Required education:

Bachelor's degree in natural resources: forestry, ecology, biology, or related field.

Application Instructions

Interested applicants should submit the required application materials as pdf or MS Word attachments in an email to Ernesto Alvadao (alvarado@uw.edu).

Required Application Materials:

- 1) Resume
- 2) Transcripts (unofficial copy is acceptable)
- 3) Contact information for 3 professional references