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## POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Location: Yuma, Arizona

**Position Title:** Research Specialist (Extended Temporary)  
**Job Code:** 30310  
**Job Number:** 49181  
**Pay Grade:** 41  
**Hiring Range:** \$31,125 - \$38,443 annually / \$14.964 - \$18.482 hourly  
**Department:** 1538 - Mohave County Cooperative Extension

Outstanding UA benefits include health, dental and life insurance; paid vacation, sick leave, and holidays, tuition reduction for the employee and qualified family members; and state retirement.

### Position Summary:

The primary purpose of the Research Specialist is to perform a variety of standard sampling procedures for inventory and monitoring of soils and vegetation on rangeland ecosystems. The position also organizes, evaluates and digitizes existing data related to project goals. Efforts are conducted in cooperation with Bureau of Land Management (BLM) personnel and grazing permittees. The position also assists The University of Arizona Cooperative Extension personnel in educational activities regarding land management, assessment and monitoring. Additional responsibilities may be deemed necessary and assigned by the College and/or Extension administrators.

Work is primarily outdoors and involves physical exertion including walking, standing, crouching, hiking, opening and closing of wire gates, and possible riding of horses and UTVs over rough terrain. It also involves extended driving of 4-wheel-drive vehicles over rough terrain, exposure to variable environmental conditions, and may involve occasional overnight camping at remote locations. A valid driver's license is required at time of employment.

This position is based in Yuma, Arizona, with most field work occurring on lands administered by the BLM Yuma Field Office. The position reports to The University of Arizona Mohave County Cooperative Extension, but office space and supporting services are provided by the BLM Yuma Field Office.

This position is currently funded for a two-year period from the date of hire. Continued employment depends on future funding.

This position will report to Research Specialist, Sr., and County Extension Director/Extension Agent, Agriculture, The University of Arizona Mohave County Cooperative Extension.



## **Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Record vegetation and soil sampling data at locations throughout the assigned area using electronic field devices and summarize results.
- Develop Ecological Site Descriptions based on soil and vegetation data.
- Evaluate, organize and update BLM field files with summarized field data and provide reports to BLM personnel and grazing permittees.
- Verify and input historical inventory and monitoring data into computer database.
- Teach and assist BLM personnel and grazing permittees regarding land inventory and monitoring techniques and protocols.
- Evaluate inventory and monitoring techniques.
- Assist at range-related Extension workshops.
- Assemble and present data and results at workshops and national meetings as requested.

## **Minimum Qualifications:**

- Bachelor's degree in a field appropriate to the area of assignment **AND** two years related research experience; **OR**,
- Six years research experience appropriate to the area of assignment; **OR**,
- Any equivalent combination of experience, training and/or education.
- Knowledge of natural resource management and soil science
- Possession of a valid driver's license.
- Computer literacy.
- Effective communication skills.
- Self-motivated and able to work independently.
- Ability to ride horses and operate UTV's.
- Meet requirements of security screening processes for both the University employees and federal contractors.

## **Preferred Qualifications:**

- Demonstrated ability to work with minimum supervision.
- Ability to identify native and naturalized plant species.
- Experience identifying soil characteristics.
- Ability to navigate to and find locations based on topographic and other maps.
- Knowledge of GIS and GPS applications.
- Experience and understanding of vegetation and soil sampling techniques.
- Experience and understanding of rangeland management and public land issues.

To apply, please complete an online application for **JOB # 49181** at [www.uacareertrack.com](http://www.uacareertrack.com)  
Be prepared to attach a resume and letter of interest.

Review of materials begins on **February 15, 2012** and continues until filled.

**The University of Arizona is an EEO / AA Employer - M/W/D/V**