

# Restoration Ecology Research Associate – The Ecology Center, Utah State University

## Position Summary

The Ecology Center and Department of Wildland Resources, College of Natural Resources, seek a Restoration Ecology Research Associate to manage Utah State University's (USU) portion of the multi-institution, multi-state, multi-disciplinary sagebrush restoration/fuels management research SageSTEP project (<http://www.sagestep.org/>). This is a temporary professional position with present support for approximately 14 months and an expectation of continued support; continued employment beyond this commitment is contingent on continuation of funding. Available immediately but the starting date is negotiable.

In collaboration with University of Nevada–Reno, Oregon State University, University of Idaho, Brigham Young University, USDA Forest Service, USDA Agricultural Research Service, USDA Bureau of Land Management, and USGS Forest & Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center, we are conducting a region-wide study on fuels management and restoration of Great Basin Wyoming big sagebrush–bunchgrass ecosystems threatened by conversion to cheatgrass-degraded systems and by woodland expansion. The overall project integrates plant ecology, fire science, wildlife biology, soil science, hydrology, economics, and social sciences, and includes a strong outreach component.

## Responsibilities

The Research Associates duties include, but are not limited to: (1) Manage field crews collecting data on fuels and plant demographic responses to treatments across Utah, Nevada, and Idaho; downloading climate data; preparing soil samples; and other tasks as needed; and maintenance of fences and weather stations, (2) Contribute, as time permits, to assist other experiments associated with the overall project and conduct independent research as time permits, (3) Archive data electronically and contribute to the analysis of data and writing of manuscripts, and (4) Participate in project-wide meetings, interact with participants from collaborating institutions, and assist with outreach as needed and as time permits.

Note that this position requires extensive travel and time away from home during the field season, including frequently over weekends.

## Minimum Qualifications

A Master's degree or a Bachelor's degree with relevant experience in Ecology, Biology, Natural Resources, or a related field is required. Experience conducting, analyzing, and interpreting ecological experiments is required. Must be able to travel and work for extended periods under desert conditions, and the ability to work effectively with minimal supervision as well as work as a productive team member are required. Must be highly motivated and have strong interpersonal and communication skills.

### Preferred Qualifications

Experience with ecological restoration and with semiarid land ecology, especially sagebrush ecology, and experience with GIS is desirable but not required.

### Salary

\$32,000 minimum annual salary plus excellent benefits package; depending on qualifications salary can be higher.

### Special Instructions to Applicants

Along with the on-line application please attach a cover letter, resume, and the names and contact information of three references familiar with your work.

### Links to Apply

<http://jobs.usu.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=57322>

or: <http://jobs.usu.edu> (Req. ID 053190)

For further information contact Gene Schupp at 435-797-2475 or [eugene.schupp@usu.edu](mailto:eugene.schupp@usu.edu). Application review will begin about 10 June 2012 and the position will remain open until filled. Use the web to find more information on Utah State University <http://www.usu.edu/>, the College of Natural Resources and the Department of Wildland Resources <http://www.cnr.usu.edu/>, the Ecology Center <http://www.usu.edu/ecology/>, and the Logan area <http://www.go-utah.com/Logan/>.