

Learning from the Land Project

Outreach and Research Coordinator

Forest and Rangeland Stewardship

Colorado State University

An interdisciplinary team at Colorado State University (CSU) is looking for a motivated individual with a strong background in applied rangeland ecology and management, and interest in working with diverse stakeholders on collaborative and participatory research projects, to serve as Outreach and Research Coordinator for an integrated research and outreach project focused on the development of State and Transition Models (STMs) in rangeland systems that incorporate sage-grouse as a response variable within an adaptive management framework. This is a 3-year (36 month) full-time position, with benefits. The coordinator will serve as a CSU employee, report to the project team leader, and work closely with other interdisciplinary team members. The project team is a mix of academic faculty at CSU and University of Wyoming, extension specialists, and local rangeland specialists from state and federal agencies in Colorado and Wyoming. The project team will work with ranchers and rangeland specialists across multiple different pilot sites, building on existing efforts to increase landowners' awareness and knowledge of STMs through collaborative monitoring, modeling workshops, and adaptive management plans developed using monitoring data and STMs. STMs and adaptive management results will be used to design a suite of decision tools and simulation games to help ranchers understand, manage for, and evaluate trade-offs among specific desired outcomes, including forage and livestock production, and ecosystem services such as wildlife habitat and conservation.

Responsibilities and Relationships:

The Outreach and Research Coordinator's primary responsibilities are to 1) serve as the project liaison between the campus-based research team and the Extension agents and community partners who will participate in developing and testing state and transition models; 2) organize and facilitate workshops, meetings and collaborative activities between researchers, ranchers and natural resource agency staff to develop rangeland state and transition models (STMs) drawing on and integrating multiple knowledge and information sources (local knowledge, monitoring data, scientific literature); and 3) in collaboration with the research team, design and organize data collection to address gaps in STMs and implement adaptive management pilot projects, carry out data analysis and draft resulting reports and publications. This position will involve frequent and sometimes extended travel in western Colorado and Wyoming.

Required Qualifications:

- MS degree in rangeland ecology, range management or closely related field
- Demonstrated effectiveness working with individuals and small groups, including working collaboratively and resolving conflicts.
- Demonstrated ability, enthusiasm and experience working with diverse stakeholders including landowners, agency staff, conservationists, researchers and students.
- Demonstrated experience organizing and facilitating meetings, teaching adult learners, and/or communicating with diverse publics in formal and informal settings.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.

Desired Qualifications:

- PhD in rangeland or natural resource ecology or management, or closely related field
- Demonstrated experience with sampling design, data collection and data analysis.
- Knowledge of ecological site descriptions and state and transition models
- Experience with/appreciation for rural and agricultural livelihoods, especially ranching
- Demonstrated ability to set objectives, organize and implement and measure outcomes for complex projects, programs or initiatives.
- Strong quantitative analysis skills including multivariate classification and ordination using current statistical software programs (e.g. R+, SAS, Jump, SPSS or similar)
- Familiarity and experience with qualitative social science research methods including documentation of local/traditional ecological knowledge
- Ability to work independently
- Flexibility and adaptability; creativity; tolerance for ambiguity; experience working on interdisciplinary teams

Compensation and Benefits:

Salary dependent on level of education and experience up to a maximum starting salary of \$48,000. Full benefits.

Application Process:

All materials must be submitted by **December 31, 2012** for full consideration. Please submit the below documents to: <http://warnercnr.colostate.edu/employment-opportunities.html>

- Cover letter
- Statement (no more than 3 pages) of intent that suggests how your skills are suited for and will assist in the successful completion of the *Learning from the Land* project. Specific reference to the “Required” and “Desired” criteria is expected.
- Resume and/or summary of educational, professional and other experience.
- Name, address, telephone, e-mail address, and your relationship to at least three (3) references
- Transcripts of college(s) course work showing degrees conferred (unofficial transcripts acceptable, official transcripts preferred)

Please contact maria.fernandez-gimenez@colostate.edu with questions regarding this position.

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Colorado State University is committed to providing a safe and productive learning and living community. To achieve that goal, we conduct background investigations for all final candidates being considered for employment. Background checks may include, but are not limited to, criminal history, national sex offender search and motor vehicle history.