

Assistant Professor, Ecology and Sustainability of Rangelands

The Department of Wildland Resources, Quinney College of Natural Resources at Utah State University (Logan campus; <http://www.cnr.usu.edu/wild/>) invites applications for a nine-month tenure-track position at the Assistant Professor level. Responsibilities will be approximately 55% research, 35% teaching, and 10% service. Anticipated start date is August 2014.

We seek an individual who will develop an internationally recognized research and teaching program addressing the structure, function, dynamics, or sustainability of rangeland ecosystems, particularly in the context of climate change, biological invasions, and altered disturbance regimes. Examples of focal areas include but are not limited to: landscape ecology and remote sensing, ecosystem services, vegetation-soil interactions, biogeochemistry, herbivory, resistance and resilience, restoration, and the causes and consequences of land abandonment and conversion. We especially encourage applicants whose research integrates field, laboratory, and quantitative approaches and who are enthusiastic about contributing to USU's land grant mission.

The successful applicant should have a strong interest in both undergraduate and graduate education and a commitment to creating teaching/mentoring environments that are innovative, integrative, hands-on, and inspiring to natural resources students in the classroom and in the field. Teaching responsibilities are expected to include the capstone course for the Rangeland Resources degree and one graduate course per year, consistent with the applicant's expertise and departmental needs.

Utah State University is a Carnegie doctoral-extensive (Research I) institution, an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer and hosts an active chapter of SACNAS. The university is dedicated to recruiting outstanding candidates from a diverse pool including women, minorities, veterans, and persons with disabilities.

Minimum qualifications:

- An earned PhD in a relevant field at the time of appointment.
- Evidence of
 - the ability to develop an active research program, including a record of scholarly research and publication in peer-reviewed journals.
 - the ability to secure extramural funding from multiple sources to support research.
 - the ability to provide quality teaching and advising.

Preferred qualifications:

- Post-doctoral experience.
- Experience or interest in working in ecosystems of the Intermountain West.
- College- or university-level teaching experience, including distance education.
- A history of outreach, engagement or service with natural resource agencies, non-governmental organizations, or other constituencies involved in natural resource management issues.

- A commitment to fostering undergraduate research and training opportunities.
- Experience or interest in working with individual students and student organizations, such as the USU Student Chapter of the Society for Range Management.

Application Procedure: Review of applications will begin Nov. 18, 2013 and will continue until a suitable candidate is found. To apply, upload a maximum two-page cover letter addressing the required and preferred qualifications; a curriculum vitae; a two-page description of current and projected future research program and goals; a one-page statement of teaching experience, interests, and ideas for fostering education in undergraduate and graduate students; and the names of three references with full contact information. Instructions for applying and uploading supporting documents are at the Job Opportunities link on the USU Human Resources homepage at: _____. For further information, contact Peter Adler, Search Committee Chair, at peter.adler@usu.edu.

Additional Information: The Department of Wildland Resources at USU is one of three departments in the College of Natural Resources; others are the Watershed Sciences Department and the Environment and Society Department. The Department of Wildland Resources offers undergraduate degrees in Wildlife Science, Conservation and Restoration Ecology, Forestry, and Rangeland Resources, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Ecology, Wildlife Biology, Range Science, and Forestry. With approximately 180 undergraduate and 80 graduate students, the department has one of the largest and most active education and graduate research programs at USU. The Department is widely recognized in both teaching and research addressing natural resource management and conservation for Utah, the Intermountain West, and national and international communities. Research and teaching sites near campus include a wide range of terrestrial biomes ranging from semi-desert steppe to alpine coniferous forest.

The Department of Wildland Resources is associated with the USU Ecology Center and the Utah Agricultural Experiment Station, and enjoys strong collaborative links across the Logan campus with the Departments of Watershed Sciences, Environment and Society, Biology, Mathematics and Statistics, and Plants, Soils and Climate, among others. The Department also has active collaborations with Utah's USGS Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit (housed in the college), USDA National Wildlife Research Center Predator Research Field Station (housed in the department), Jack H. Berryman Institute (housed in the department), the National Ecological Observatory Network (the Great Basin core site is 2 hours away), Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, USDA Agricultural Research Service, and Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station laboratories. Additional information about the department and the college can be found at <http://www.cnr.usu.edu/wild/>.

Founded in 1888 as Utah's land-grant university, USU's main campus in Logan has eight colleges and boasts a friendly, supportive faculty and campus environment. In addition to the Logan campus, USU provides academic resources and support to multiple regional campuses and education centers located throughout the state.

Currently, the University hosts an enrollment of about 28,000 students, including 3,400 graduate students. The greater Logan area is a valley community of about 125,000 people nestled between the Wellsville Mountains and the Bear River Range in northeastern Utah. In addition to providing access to extraordinary ecosystems for teaching and research programs, the many ski resorts, lakes, rivers, and mountains in the area make it one of the finest outdoor recreation environments in the nation. The city of Logan boasts a very low crime rate, low cost of living, a farmer's market, summer arts festivals, and an exceptional music scene that includes the annual Utah Festival Opera and Musical Theater. The campus is 80 miles north of Salt Lake City. With views of a natural area reserve from campus, the pristine natural environment of the area makes Logan one of America's most desirable and affordable university towns (<http://www.tourcachevalley.com/>).