

MS Graduate Research Assistantship – Rangeland Social-Ecological Systems/Human Dimensions of Rangelands at Colorado State University

Position: The Department of Forest & Rangeland Stewardship at Colorado State University invites applications for a MS graduate research assistantship beginning in August 2019 (2-year duration). The successful applicant will work under the supervision of Dr. María Fernández-Giménez and collaborate with researchers and managers from The Nature Conservancy, USDA Agricultural Research Service, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Bird Conservancy of the Rockies to understand ranchers' interests, needs and experiences related to rangeland assessment and monitoring for adaptive management. Specifically, the research will focus on rancher experiences with and use of app-based monitoring platforms for adaptive decision-making. This position includes 2 years of tuition and a graduate research assistantship, research expenses, and opportunities to attend professional and scientific meetings. The successful applicant will pursue an MS in Rangeland Ecosystem Science at Colorado State University beginning in August 2019.

Responsibilities: We seek a self-motivated and hardworking individual with interests in human dimensions, education and outreach, and rangeland ecosystem assessment and monitoring. Supported by a USDA NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant, the successful candidate will interview ranchers; assist in the design, implementation and evaluation of outreach workshops across several western states; and develop a thesis related to these activities.

Required and Desired Qualifications: The candidate will join a dynamic interdisciplinary lab group and project team and must have excellent interpersonal, oral and written communication skills; a positive attitude; the ability to work independently and as part of a team, and to solve problems independently. The research will require extensive travel to field sites in several states; therefore, the candidate must be able to travel for several weeks at a time and possess a valid US driver's license. Desired qualifications include an undergraduate degree and professional experience in rangeland ecology, management, assessment and/or monitoring, OR human dimensions of natural resources, education, communication, or other related social science discipline or closely related work experience. Experience with quantitative (e.g. surveys) or qualitative (e.g. interviews) social science research methods is desirable. Applicants with a demonstrated commitment to and/or experience with diversity and inclusion in natural resource management are strongly encouraged to apply.

To Apply: This position includes 2 years of tuition and a graduate research assistantship, research expenses, and opportunities to attend professional and scientific meetings. The student is expected to pursue an MS in Rangeland Ecosystem Science at Colorado State University beginning in August 2019. Please send a cover letter, transcripts, resume and names and contact information for 3 references to Dr. Maria Fernandez-Gimenez (maria.fernandez-gimenez@colostate.edu) with the words "CIG Graduate Assistantship Application" in the subject line. References should include at least one academic mentor/professor and one professional employment supervisor. Applications received by January 10 will receive priority consideration, but applications will be reviewed until the position is filled. Applicants should also submit an application to the MS program in Rangeland Ecosystem Science (<https://warnercnr.colostate.edu/frs/how-to-apply/>).

Setting: The Department of Forest and Rangeland Stewardship at Colorado State University is an interdisciplinary academic program uniquely poised to advance education, research, and outreach in forest and rangeland stewardship and restoration ecology in the Central Rockies and High Plains. The Warner College of Natural Resources is home to five academic departments and several centers and

institutes including the Colorado Forest Restoration Institute, the WESTFIRE Research Center, the Colorado State Forest Service, Natural Resource Ecology Lab, the Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands and the Colorado Natural Heritage Program. These programs, institutes and centers provide a foundation for research, education and outreach in the natural resources. Linkages across departments and colleges, and with federal and state land managers and research centers, form a broader interdisciplinary foundation for increased impact. We expect the incumbent to foster opportunities for our students to become future leaders in the stewardship of natural resources. The city of Fort Collins is situated along the beautiful Front Range of the Rocky Mountains. In addition to the many and varied cultural activities sponsored by the University, the community offers a center for performing arts, a symphony orchestra, repertory theater, choral society, and dance company. Rocky Mountain National Park, Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest, and Pawnee National Grassland are within 30 miles of Fort Collins. Fort Collins is consistently identified as one of the best cities in the US to live in by various national media.

Colorado State University is committed to providing an environment that is free from discrimination and harassment based on race, age, creed, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, gender, disability, veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or pregnancy. Colorado State University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action employer fully committed to achieving a diverse workforce and complies with all Federal and Colorado State laws, regulations, and executive orders regarding non-discrimination and affirmative action. The Office of Equal Opportunity is located in 101 Student Services.

Colorado State University (CSU) strives to provide a safe study, work, and living environment for its faculty, staff, volunteers and students. To support this environment and comply with applicable laws and regulations, CSU conducts background checks. The type of background check conducted varies by position and can include, but is not limited to, criminal (felony and misdemeanor) history, sex offender registry, motor vehicle history, financial history, and/or education verification. Background checks will be conducted when required by law or contract and when, in the discretion of the university, it is reasonable and prudent to do so.