

The USDA, Agricultural Research Service, Rangeland Resources and Systems Research Unit in Fort Collins, Colorado, is seeking a POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (Social Scientist with advanced coursework in Rangeland Science, or Rangeland Scientist with advanced coursework in a relevant Social Science) for a 12-month appointment. Ph.D. is required. Salary is commensurate with a GS-11 (step 1) level of \$70,181 per annum plus benefits. Citizenship restrictions apply.

The postdoctoral research associate will assist the USDA Northern Plains Climate Hub with two research/outreach projects:

- 1) Primary responsibility for conducting a literature review and coauthoring a synthesis report about the effects of climate change on grassland ecosystems of the Northern mixed-grass prairies of eastern Montana, eastern Wyoming, western North Dakota, and western South Dakota;
- 2) Assist in the collection, transcription and analysis of ethnographic interviews with rangeland livestock producers in the Northern Plains about severe/extreme weather in a changing climate. Develop an online outreach product (e.g., interactive webpage) that effectively communicates research findings to relevant stakeholders (e.g., Extension professionals, conservation districts).

Knowledge of rangeland science, climate science, climate vulnerability assessments, grazing systems, and rural sociology/anthropology/ethnography are desirable. The following skillsets through demonstrated experience are desirable: efficient synthesis of scientific information; effective written communication of scientific information for non-technical audiences; experience conducting ethnographic interviews with agricultural producers and analyzing qualitative data; science communication through creative and user-friendly outlets (e.g., interactive webpage, graphical user interface, etc.). Must meet the qualification standards of the Federal job series 0454 or 0101, described at the following websites:

<https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/classification-qualifications/general-schedule-qualification-standards/0100/social-science-series-0101/>

<https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/classification-qualifications/general-schedule-qualification-standards/0400/rangeland-management-series-0454/>

Send a cover letter, CV, and contact information for 3 professional references to Dr. Dannele Peck at dannele.peck@usda.gov or at USDA ARS, 8408 Hildreth Rd., Cheyenne, WY 82009. Deadline to submit materials is July 15, 2020 or until the position is filled, with a target start-date of October 1, 2020.

USDA/ARS is an equal opportunity provider and employer.