



COPPER RIVER WATERSHED PROJECT

≈Upriver and down, salmon are common ground≈

Title: Plant Program Field Technician – Copper Basin

Supervisor: Watershed Stewardship Program Manager

Position Type: Full-time, seasonal

Hours: 40hrs/week, June-September, with possible extension

Salary: Starting \$18.00 - \$22.00/hour D.O.E.

Position will be open until filled during field season



Organization and Program Description:

The Copper River Watershed Project (CRWP) is an environmental non-profit located in Cordova, Alaska, with a mission of promoting a salmon-rich, intact watershed and culturally diverse community by forming partnerships for watershed-scale planning and projects. For over 10 years CRWP has had an active Invasive Plant Program working to control and prevent the spread of invasive plants throughout the Copper River Watershed. In the Copper Basin, the program primarily addresses terrestrial invasive plants that threaten salmon and wildlife habitat in the Copper River and the new work development plan to collect and store for a native seed bank in the region. Effective management of invasive plant species takes an integrated approach incorporating inventory and prevention, treatment, and restoration. The Copper Basin Native Plant Seed Program will help re-establish native plants on lands treated for invasive plant species, and other areas where the landscape has been disturbed, including at the conclusion of multiple fish passage restoration projects the CRWP is implementing in the area.

Summary of Position:

The Plant Program Technician position is a field-based job starting **May 27th, 2024 through September 27th, 2024**, with the potential for extensions. The position plays an active part in two of CRWP's major plant programs, invasive plant management and native seed harvesting. The technician will work closely with the Watershed Stewardship Program Manager to carry out the following duties.

Duties in invasive plant management efforts include the conducting of surveys, recording data, and implementing manual and mechanical control treatments for terrestrial invasive plants. On-the-job training will be provided for plant identification, surveying, and data collection methods. The technician will also help with invasive species-related education and outreach efforts such as; local community events, collaborations with partners, and supplemental material messaging. The employee will be expected to work independently at times, or accompanied by an additional intern technician if the position is filled. The employee will also work in a group setting with up to 10 volunteers and partners intermittently.

Duties for native seed harvesting include conducting collection site surveys with the Program Manager, recording data via Survey 123, collecting genetically variable seeds utilizing the Seeds of Success protocol (SOS), and processing seed for outsourced germination testing. The technician will also assist in any educational outreach opportunities scheduled to increase awareness and understanding of native seed harvesting to Copper Basin residents at community events, farmers markets, and local festivals. The employee will be expected to work alone in the field at times, and may be accompanied by an additional intern technician if the position is filled. The technician will have access to a CRWP work laptop for the onboarding and training process, as well as, the logging of their hours and inputting data. Additional duties may arise if funding becomes available for proposed programs that the CRWP Program Manager and technician will carry out.

The position is a 40 hr./week job with a 1 hr./day paid lunch. The position is not eligible for holiday pay or overtime pay. The individual may choose to take days off on unpaid terms, and when approved by their supervisor. Housing or other stipends will not be provided. This position is remote-based, meaning, there is no office space available at this time to utilize for time spent on the computer. A personal vehicle is preferred, as the individual will be working alone at times and transporting tools, field gear, and personal supplies to Copper Basin field locations sometimes many miles apart. The employee may often be exposed to harsh field conditions such as; rain, wind, mud, heavy lifting, bending for long periods of time, and traversing in difficult terrain on foot. The employee will be reimbursed for mileage at the federal rate of \$0.67/mile. Travel in a company vehicle will also occur when the shared vehicle is available.

More information regarding our Invasive Plant Program can be found here:

<https://copperriver.org/programs/invasive-plant-management/>

Qualifications:

Minimum requirements the technician will be expected to perform:

- Manually treat terrestrial invasive plants via manual or mechanical control such as; pulling, tarping, mowing, cutting, and seed head removal
- Manually collect appropriate amounts of native seed at directed locations with the ability to learn science-based practices to ensure the health of the plant population
- Accurately track field data in Survey123 via iPad or notebook
- Follow surveying protocols and assess areas of concern to your supervisor
- Process and clean collected native seed to prepare for germination testing
- Assist with pre-season inventory and ordering of program supplies
- Maintain and repair hand tools or field equipment and gear
- Properly clean field gear to prevent further spread of invasive plants
- Professionally represent CRWP when in the field and performing various duties
- Direct or address general public questions or concerns when working in the field
- Participate and represent CRWP in community outreach events
- Maintain a flexible schedule between the hours of 8:00AM-5:00PM M-F
- Assist with other tasks as assigned

Desired qualifications:

- At least 18 years of age
- Have access to a reliable personal vehicle
- Ability to work independently in the field
- Ability to engage and collaborate in group settings
- Ability to thrive in a small, remote town
- Willing to work outdoors through inclement weather
- Willing to hike and traverse on uneven ground
- Demonstrate good communications skills and ability to interact with the public
- Preference for applicants with experience or relevant coursework in Environmental Science, Botany, Biology, and other closely related science-based subjects

Please provide a **resume and 3 professional references** to Amanda Jackson. Position open until filled. Applications will be reviewed upon submission and until the closing date of the application time. A cover letter is not required, but it **strongly encouraged**. Additionally, you may contact Amanda Jackson with any questions.

Amanda Jackson
Watershed Stewardship Program Manager
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