

2019 Cooperative Summer Field Training Program

● Project Title:	Biological data collection in support of restoration across the Colorado Plateau
● Project Scientists:	Rob Massatti
● USGS Center:	Southwest Biological Science Center
● Location:	Flagstaff

Project Description:

Background Information:

The U.S. Geological Survey is working in collaboration with the Bureau of Land Management's Colorado Plateau Native Plant Program to collect and study wildland plant populations in an effort to support future native plant materials development for restoration.

Objectives:

Interns will work with scientists to identify and visit plant populations to collect seeds, plant tissues, and other biological data aimed at identifying the environmental and genetic drivers of plant performance and persistence.

Intern Tasks:

- Collects biological, botanic, genetic, and soil data and/or samples from field locations in grassland and shrubland plant communities across the Colorado Plateau.
- Performs laboratory analyses to determine specified chemical, biological, genetic, or physical characteristics.
- Operates a government motor vehicle as an incidental driver.
- Work may be physically challenging and includes walking, bending, climbing, and lifting of equipment up to 50lbs while in the field, sometimes during adverse conditions. Office work (e.g., data entry) requires the ability to sit for prolonged periods.

Expected Outcomes:

Interns will develop strong botanical knowledge of the flora on the Colorado Plateau and will learn about the science being used to help land managers restore public lands.

Details for Matching:

Type of Project: Field Work

Project Discipline: Ecology, Botany

Project Start Date: Sun Apr 15 2018 00:00:00 GMT-0400 (EDT)

Project Duration: 5 months

Level of Physical Demand: Level 8-2: The work requires some physical exertion such as long periods of standing, walking over rough, uneven, or rocky surfaces; recurring bending, crouching, stooping, stretching, reaching, or similar activities; or recurring lifting of moderately heavy items. The work may require specific, but common, physical characteristics and abilities such as above-average agility and dexterity.

GIS Training: ESA

Special Skills and Interests: • Practical knowledge of the technical methods and procedures of biological sciences to organize and execute a variety of projects.

- Knowledge of routine field data collection procedures in order to collect biological data.
- Skill in the operation, maintenance, and servicing of a variety of biological recording and measuring instruments.
- Knowledge of procedures and techniques utilized in biological and/or genetic laboratories for measuring the physical, chemical, and/or genetic parameters of organisms.
- Experience using dichotomous keys to assist plant identification and knowledge of common plant species across the Colorado Plateau.