SOIL SCIENTIST (NWCA WETLANDS)

2016 FIELD SEASON

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING’S NATURAL DIVERSITY DATABASE

The Wyoming Natural Diversity Database at the University of Wyoming seeks to hire two soil scientists with experience working in wetlands for a four-person crew to collect data about soils, hydrology, and vegetation in wetlands throughout Wyoming from May through August. The soil scientists will be short-term, non-benefited employees of the University of Wyoming. This wetland project is based in Lander, Wyoming. Housing will not be provided.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: Each day, the crew members will navigate to pre-determined sampling points. At each point, they will delineate the wetland boundary, document the strata present in the vegetation and identify the dominant plant species in each stratum, record the abundance of invasive weeds, characterize the soil profile, identify hydric soil indicators and record information on a variety of hydrological features.

SEASON: Start between May 2nd and June 6th depending on qualifications and end around September 1st. Start and dates will be somewhat flexible.

WORK SCHEDULE: There will be 40 hours per week of work in the Lander, WY office for field season preparation and one week of training May 16 – 20. Field season schedule (June 6 – Sept 1) will be 8 days on/6 days off. Car camping and backpacking is required. A vehicle will be provided for all field work.

REQUIREMENTS: (1) Demonstrable proficiency in recognizing features of wetland soils and describing soil profiles. (2) Careful attention to detail in making measurements, recording information, and keeping track of data forms & equipment. (3) Willingness to work long days, sometimes in inclement weather & often with mosquitoes. (4) Willingness to car-camp or backpack for up to a week at a time in remote locations.

DESIRED SKILLS: (1) Acquaintance with techniques of wetland delineation; (2) Experience measuring water pH and conductivity; (3) Experience driving 4-wheel drive vehicles on rough roads; (4) Ability to navigate using topographic maps, compass, & gps receiver; (5) Experience using Arc GIS and Microsoft Access.

PAY: Gross pay will be $17 to $14 per hour depending on qualifications, with time-and-a-half overtime for hours exceeding 40/week. $20.00 per diem will be paid for each day spent camping out. Social security and workers’ compensation payments will be deducted from gross pay.
To apply, submit a cover letter, resume showing qualifications, and contact information for 3 references to Lindsey Washkoviak, at lwashkov@uwyo.edu. For more information please call 307-335-2139.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.