JOB ANNOUNCEMENT: Wildlife/Habitat Technician
(Temp Bio Science Research Worker)
Northern Great Basin Experimental Range, Riley, OR
Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Station, Burns, OR

Oregon State University is hiring 6-7 temporary (3 month) positions to spend a summer collecting valuable scientific data for several research projects in the Oregon desert. Successful applicants will work on a variety of collaborative research projects including studies assessing the effects of grazing on sensitive wildlife species, understanding bunchgrass regrowth and wildlife habitat potential under differing management regimes, collecting ecological data to inform forage and fine fuels management tools, monitoring the outcomes of a landscape fire risk reduction study, and assessing outcomes of different grazing and invasive species management strategies on a national wildlife refuge.

While successful applicants will work some on all the projects, 2-3 (depending on funding) will be hired to work primarily on wildlife and wildlife habitat projects. These technicians will be housed and located at the Northern Great Basin Experimental Range (NGBER) approximately 35 miles west of Burns, OR in Riley, OR, and will help to implement and monitor a replicated grazing experiment assessing the influence of two grazing regimes and grazing exclusion on the reproductive success of sagebrush-obligate songbirds, potential nesting habitat for sensitive avian species, and plant community composition and structure. These technicians will primarily assist the principal investigator with treatment application, songbird point count and nest surveys, sample processing, vegetation sampling, plant species identification, and data entry and summarization on several wildlife habitat research projects in the northern Great Basin.

The 4 other successful candidates will be hired to primarily work on rangeland ecology and management projects and will be based in Burns, OR at the Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center where on-site housing is provided on a first-come, first-serve basis. These technicians will collect data on vegetation standing crop and production, plant functional group composition, various habitat quality metrics, and fine fuels (amount, continuity, and moisture). Work on the wildlife and wildlife habitat projects will occur as time allows. These technicians will work predominately in the Pueblo Mountain Wilderness Study Area, the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, and a variety of ecological sites throughout southeastern Oregon including the Steens Mountain, Owyhees, Hart Mountain areas.
Successful candidates will gain outstanding theoretical and practical training and experience in plant community and wildlife habitat ecology, conservation, and management in the northern Great Basin.

Desired Qualifications
1. Experience/training in songbird point counts, nest searching, or experience using wildlife camera technology
2. Courses/experience in natural resources, range, wildlife, botany, plant science, or related field.
3. Experience/training in field identification of plant species, preferably Great Basin
4. Experience/training in vegetation sampling techniques, such as line-point intercept, biomass sampling, visual obscurity estimation with Robel pole, and transect and ground photo monitoring.
5. Experience living or working in rural/remote locations
6. Experience with excel and use of portable tablets for data entry in the field
7. General knowledge of computers and skills for use of word processing and data entry.
8. Demonstrated commitment to promoting and enhancing diversity.
9. Ability to carry out tasks independently and part of a team.
10. Experience with driving 4WD vehicles and GPS units.
11. Ability to physically hike ten miles or more a day and perform job duties from 0°-105° F in desert environments.
12. Ability to safely lift and carry up to 50lbs.
13. Possess a current, valid driver’s license. Driver’s license required to commute to remote research/demonstration project locations. A driving history for the past 3 years from the issuing state’s Dept. of Motor Vehicles is required in order to drive University vehicles.

Position Duties
This will primarily be a field based job involving irregular work hours and/or days and will likely include camping in remote locations. Work will consist of roughly 85% data/sample collection and processing in the field and lab and 15% data entry and summarization. Please indicate in your email or cover letter if you are interested in applying for the positions located in Riley, OR focused primarily on wildlife and wildlife habitat studies or for the positions located in Burns, OR focused primarily on rangeland ecology and management studies or both.

Please submit a cover letter and resume to Vanessa.schroeder@oregonstate.edu with Wildlife/Habitat Technician in the subject line by February 1, 2019 for full consideration. Applications accepted through February 22, 2019. Start dates will vary by technician ranging from mid-April to mid-May. Please indicate if you are interested in the Riley or Burns positions or both.
Habitat & Rangeland Ecology Technicians (Summer 2019)

Job title: Biological Science Aid or Technician  
Series/Grade: GS-0404-03/04  
Start Date: May 2019  
End Date: August-September  
Location: Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center, Burns, OR  
Number of Positions: 6

Job Description:
Assists a research scientist who is conducting vegetation ecology research in sagebrush steppe and riparian plant communities located in the northern Great Basin. Projects include determining interactions between livestock grazing and fire risk, investigating the effects of prescribed burning and mechanical sagebrush thinning on wildlife habitat, evaluating the impacts of invasive plant infestations on sage-grouse habitat, determining landscape scale vegetation patterns, investigating management and climate influence on vegetation characteristics and sage-grouse habitat, evaluating methods to contain and prevent invasive plant infestations, and investigating methods to shift succession to desired plant communities. Duties include vegetation and environmental data collection, processing vegetation and soil samples, establishment and maintenance of research plots, and data entry. Duties will also include assisting in some laboratory work. Travel and camping throughout eastern and southern Oregon, northern Nevada, and southwestern Idaho is required.

Requirements: Undergraduates in range, soils, wildlife, or other natural resource fields. Must be able to lift objects that weigh up to 50 pounds including a backpack and kneel/squat for extended periods of time for sample collection. Must have a valid state motor vehicle operator's license and be able to operate motor vehicles. Must be able to work and camp in adverse weather conditions. Must be able to hike over rugged and steep terrain. Need to be at least 16 years of age. Need to be a citizen of the United States of America.

GS-3: Successful completion of 1 year of study that included at least 6 semester hours in any combination of scientific or technical courses such as biology, chemistry, statistics, entomology, animal husbandry, botany, physics, agriculture, or mathematics OR 6 months of general experience, which demonstrates the ability to perform the work of the position.

GS-4: 6 months of general and 6 months of specialized experience OR successful completion of 2 years of post high school study that included at least 12 semester hours in any combination of courses such as biology, chemistry, statistics, entomology, animal husbandry, botany, physics, agriculture or mathematics of which 6 semester hours of courses relate directly to the duties of the position (plant biology, range/ ecology, or natural resource management). General experience must have demonstrated the ability to perform the work of the position or provided a familiarity with the subject matter. Specialized experience must have been at least equivalent to the GS-03 grade level in the Federal Service.

Salary and Housing: $12.74 to $14.30/hr depending on experience and/or education. Workweek is typically 40 to 50 hrs. Housing and utilities are provided at the research station at no charge. When staying overnight in the field, a per-diem will be provided for food.

To Apply: Mail or email resume, reference contact information, college transcripts, and OF-306 form to the address below before February 1. Also indicate dates available to work. List any pertinent classes in natural resources, rangeland science, botany, wildlife, soils, and environmental science. OF-306 form can be found at this website: http://www.opm.gov/forms/pdf_fill/of306.pdf USDA-ARS is an AA/EOE.

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Wildlife Technician (Sage-grouse) - Oregon

Opening for a wildlife technician to study season long horse grazing on sage-grouse habitat beginning March 4th and ending the end of June. The experiment is a collaborative research project between Roaring Springs Ranch, Oregon State University and USDA-ARS. The study uses a case study approach to determine the impacts of season long (8 months per year) horse grazing on 1. Sage-grouse nesting habitat structure and composition and 2. Behavioral interactions between nesting sage-grouse and grazing horses within active nesting habitat located near a water source.

The work will involve living and working at a cattle ranch located near the Steens Mountains and will include assisting with capturing, radio-collaring and tracking grouse using VHF technology with the ranch biologist and staff in the early spring, and likely some habitat vegetation measurements and fencing work later in the spring/summer. Vegetation work will likely include some of the following: line point intercept, line intercept, visual obscurity using rob pole, daubenmire plots and belt transect. Plant ID is a plus, but most ID will likely be to functional group and training can be provided. Work might include other duties associated with the research project/ranch.
1. Courses/experience in natural resources, wildlife, botany, plant science, or related field.
2. Avian experience preferred
3. Experience with vegetation monitoring methods
4. Experience working with telemetry
5. Experience living or working in rural/remote locations
6. General knowledge of computers and skills for use of word processing and data entry.
7. Ability to carry out tasks independently and part of a team.
8. Experience with driving 4WD vehicles and GPS units.
9. Experience/ability to perform strenuous work in extreme environments

**Position Duties**

This will primarily be a field based job involving irregular work hours and/or days. Work will consist of roughly 85% data/sample collection and processing in the field and 15% data entry and summarization. **Ranch housing will be provided.**

Please submit a cover letter and resume to Vanessa.schroeder@oregonstate.edu with Sage-Grouse Technician in the subject line by February 1, 2019 for full consideration. Applications accepted through February 22, 2019. Start date will be March 4th and end June 30th.
2019 Range Ecology Technicians
Juniper Woodland and Shrub Steppe Ecology

Job Title: Range Ecology Technician
Start Date: May/June, 2019
End Date: August/Sept, 2019; 10 to 12 weeks of employment
Location: Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center, Burns, Oregon.

Number of Positions Available: 4

Job Description: Techs work with the research scientist. Fieldwork is oriented to ecological studies with emphasis in plant succession, plant community structure and composition, and post-fire ecology. Responsibilities are to assist in the collection of field data (vegetation and soils descriptions). Field work takes up about 80% of the position responsibilities. Work is in rugged and remote areas of southeastern Oregon and southwest Idaho. Office and lab work is mainly data entry and sample processing.

Research projects include:
(1) Restoration of aspen and shrub steppe communities; southeast Oregon and southwest Idaho.
(2) Fire ecology in juniper woodlands and sagebrush steppe; southeast Oregon and southwest Idaho.
(3) Influence of fire and grazing on vegetation succession on sagebrush steppe.
(4) Prescribed fire applications – September (tentative)

Requirements: Prefer that applicants be undergraduates in ecology, botany, soils, wildlife, or other natural resource fields. Students should be familiar with computer spreadsheets. Students must be capable of hiking over steep and rough terrain and on occasion camping 2 to 4 night a week. Must be able to lift/pack up to 50 lbs. and able to squat/kneel for extended periods of time for sample collection. Applicants must be US citizen and have a valid driver’s license. This is a federal job so applicants must pass a background check.

Salary and Housing: $10 to $16/hr depending on experience. Workweek is 40 hours, consisting of 4 10-hr days. Overtime hours are treated as credit or comp time. A food allowance of $15.00/day is provided when staying overnight in the field. Housing, Wi-Fi and utilities are provided at the research station at no charge.

To Apply: Send or email letter of interest, resume, and 3 references to the address below. List any pertinent classes in rangeland science, botany, natural resources, wildlife, and soil science. USDA is AA/EOE.

Hiring: I will schedule a phone interview with you ASAP after receiving your application materials. I hire pretty quickly; often first, come first hired.

This is a federal job so it takes a couple months on the hiring process; to be hired you will need:
1. Fingerprints (we will provide you with the necessary form (SF-87) and posted return mail)
2. OF-306 Form, Declaration for Federal Employment (will email this too you)
3. Social Security Card,
4. Photo I.D. (driver’s license),
5. Transcripts (non-official is fine)

CONTACT:
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Extension Beef Specialist  
Oregon State University  
Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center

Rank: Assistant Professor; 0.75 FTE, 12-month, tenure track; or 1.0 FTE, 9-month, tenure track; to be determined at the discretion of the College of Agricultural Sciences Dean

Position title: Assistant Professor, Extension Beef Specialist (75% Extension: 25% research)

Location: Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center, Burns Station

Salary: Commensurate with experience

Position overview:

The Department of Animal and Rangeland Sciences and the Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center (EOARC) at Oregon State University (OSU) seeks outstanding individuals who are interested in becoming part of a Beef Cattle Management Team. If selected, you will provide leadership, along with Eastern Oregon Experiment Station faculty, to the statewide beef cattle extension effort. You will serve as a statewide Beef Cattle Extension Specialist and be a resource person for county extension agents, cattle producers and agribusinesses, produce popular press and extension publications, and effectively communicate research-based information. You will be expected to develop programs that address the needs of Oregon’s diverse clientele, which include but are not limited to, Native American beef producers, niche market beef producers, cow/calf producers, stocker operations, feedlots, and producers with public land grazing allotments. Your research will be directed toward beef production in Oregon and the Intermountain West and in collaboration with faculty at the EOARC, Department of Animal and Rangeland Sciences, off-campus Extension faculty, and other university departments and experiment stations as appropriate. The EOARC is jointly managed and funded by the Agricultural Experiment Station of OSU and USDA-ARS. Some of the current topics being studied include ruminant nutrition, grazing behavior, rangeland restoration, rangeland ecology, livestock-wildlife-grazing interactions, and invasive species. The position is located at the EOARC in Burns (Harney County) and promotion and tenure is administered through the Department of Animal and Rangeland Sciences (https://anrs.oregonstate.edu/).

Minimum/Required qualifications include a Doctorate at the time of hire in Animal Sciences, Rangeland Management, or closely related field. Demonstrated knowledge of beef cattle production and management. Demonstrated teaching, written, and oral communication skills. General knowledge of computers, including proficiency in Microsoft Office software and other data management programs. Demonstrated commitment to promote and enhance diversity, equity and inclusion. This position is designated as a critical, security-sensitive position; therefore, the incumbent must successfully complete a Criminal History Check and be determined to be position qualified as per OSU Standard 576-055-0000 et seq. Incumbents are required to self-report convictions and those in Youth Programs may have additional Criminal History Checks every 24 months. This position requires driving a University vehicle...
or a personal vehicle on behalf of the University; therefore, the incumbent must successfully complete a Motor Vehicle History Check, possess and maintain a current, valid driver’s license in their state of residence, be determined to be position qualified and self-report convictions as per OSU Standard 576-056-0000 et seq. Preferred Qualifications include demonstrated knowledge of rangeland-based, beef cattle production in a semi-arid environment. Demonstrated experience developing outreach programs and associated educational materials. Demonstrated ability to work as a team member with other professionals, volunteers, and underrepresented/underserved audiences. Demonstrated ability to work with stakeholders of diverse backgrounds and interests. Demonstrated knowledge of public lands management and policy. Demonstrated ability to lead groups and to plan, organize, evaluate, manage, and delegate details associated with program and office management. Demonstrated experience using multiple forms of electronic communication. Demonstrated ability to secure external funding support for educational and research programs. Demonstrated ability to work independently with minimal supervision and manage competing time demands. Demonstrated life experience, education, and/or training that broaden capacity to equalize the success or impact on underserved audiences.

Background Information:

Founded in 1868, Oregon State University serves as Oregon’s land-grant university and is the largest university in the state, serving more than 31,000 students, over 10,000 employees while operating a $1.2 billion budget. OSU promotes a collaborative, inclusive and caring community that strives for equity and equal opportunity; that creates a welcoming environment and enables success for people from all walks of life; and that shares common, fundamental values grounded in justice, civility, and respect. The University is fully committed to ethnic, gender, and cultural diversity and believes in access to a quality affordable education for all qualified Oregonians.

Beef cattle are an important component of Oregon’s economy, with cattle sales being the #2 Ag commodity in 2017. The Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center is composed of two research stations, one in Union and another in Burns. These stations were established to address beef systems in 2 distinct ecoregions — coniferous forests (Union; https://agsci.oregonstate.edu/oearcunion) and sagebrush steppe (Burns; https://agsci.oregonstate.edu/oearc). Program areas revolve around riparian restoration & management, threats to rangeland ecosystems, cattle production & management, forage systems, wildlife/livestock interactions, and other issues of regional, national and international interest. Both research stations have a long history of conducting multi-disciplinary and multi-agency research that is specific to their region while still being applicable nationally and internationally. With 1,260 acres of base property and 550 beef cows between them, Union and Burns represent OSU’s largest agricultural research center. Union, the oldest experiment station in Oregon (established in 1901), has 600 acres of base property consisting of mostly irrigated pasture. Burns has 660 acres, most of which is irrigated meadow. Additionally, the Hall Ranch, purchased in 1941 for the Union station, is 2,000 acres of forest with critical salmonid habitat. EOARC Burns is jointly run and funded by the Agricultural Experiment Station of the College of Agricultural Sciences at OSU and the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) of the USDA. EOARC collaborates closely with The Nature
Conservancy (TNC) and USDA agencies at both locations. OSU researchers at Union work closely with the USDA-USFS Pacific Northwest Research Station in the nearby Starkey Experimental Forest and with TNC on the 33,000 acre Zumwalt Prairie Preserve. The USDA-ARS at Burns manages the Northern Great Basin Experimental Range which is approximately 16,000 acres west of Burns and is used for research and grazing by EOARC cattle. TNC, OSU, and USDA-ARS faculty at Burns work closely on research and outreach programs. Consequently, the OSU, TNC, and USDA programs at the EOARC stations complement each other and enhance already strong individual programs.

Harney County:

EOARC Burns is located in Harney County in southeastern Oregon. It is the largest county in the state, known for its diverse landscapes including forests, sagebrush, lakes, streams, desert, and mountains. Harney County is open for business, travel, exploration, outdoor adventure, and recreation – see the 7 Wonders of Harney County (https://harneycounty.com/7-wonders/). Living in this area has many unique features and opportunities. Harney County is termed the "high-desert" because of its elevation (Burns is at 4,147 feet), and hence the types of vegetation and landforms that present themselves in some areas are desert like. But the landscape and climate varies greatly in this area. There are forested, pine tree covered areas in the northern portion of the County with the Ochoco and Malheur National Forests. There are large sagebrush covered rolling hills and meadows in the bottom lands. Many lakes, streams, and the Alvord Desert are in the southeastern corner of the County. A large wetland area known as the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Steens Mountain and other mountain ranges in the southern end that all add up to the tremendous and extraordinary variety of landscapes that are found here. These features add to the quality of life that appeals to a wide range of individuals. The variety of landscapes, and abundance of public lands, offer innumerable recreational opportunities. Other aspects that contribute to a positive and healthy lifestyle are the educational opportunities that are available through elementary, secondary, on-line, and branch campuses of nearby institutions of higher education. In addition, the county has a number of community partnerships and initiatives that promote collaboration to address ecological, societal, and economic challenges to community resiliency (https://highdesertpartnership.org/).

Application:

When applying you will be required to electronically upload the following documents: 1) a current resume/vita; 2) a cover letter specifically addressing each of the qualifications listed for the position; 3) unofficial transcripts from your collegiate education.

For complete position information, qualifications, and application instructions, go to http://jobs.oregonstate.edu/postings/70253/. Contact Dustin Johnson (dustin.johnson@oregonstate.edu; 541-573-8933), Search Chair, with questions. OSU is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.