Job Opportunity: Seeds of Success Native Seed Collection Specialist

Description:
The Great Basin Institute, in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management’s Moab Field Office, is recruiting to hire a Seeds of Success (SOS) Native Seed Collection Specialist to support the Colorado Plateau Native Plants Program (CPNPP). The overarching goal of the CPNPP is to “improve the quality of, and increase the availability of, native seed commercially available for use in restoration and reclamation in areas of Utah, Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona.”

The Specialist will draw on their previous experience and education to coordinate and manage both field and office components of the SOS Seed Collection/Native Plant Program on behalf of the BLM. Specialist responsibilities include but are not limited to:
• Scouting and identifying populations of target native plant species suitable for the program, including monitoring the phenology of plant populations to identify optimal seed collection times;
• Coordinating and actively conducting native seed collection(s):
  o GPS mapping populations of plants, disturbance areas, and other features;
  o Collecting seed from plant populations and completing data forms in accordance with the Seeds of Success (SOS) Technical Protocol;
  o Recording data electronically and on paper data forms, entering and editing data related to restoration activities; and
  o Assisting with the coordination of volunteer seed collection and restoration events.
• Maintaining and organizing accurate records of field collection activities;
• Coordinating the collection and proper processing of herbarium vouchers;
• Reporting accomplishments and providing recommendations for program improvements, priorities, and future projects;
• Conducting data field data quality assurance/control and ensuring field technicians are adhering to established field collection and safety protocols;
• Providing day-to-day oversight of up to two AmeriCorps members (SOS Botany Field Technicians);
• Serving as a liaison between and with both GBI and BLM staff, and making sure that all administrative paperwork are completed and submitted on time and correctly; and
• Ensuring GBI and BLM equipment are maintained and treated properly.

Compensation and Timeline:
• Rate of Pay: $17.00/hour
• Health Insurance (medical, dental, and prescription)
• 34-week term of service beginning April 06, 2015; possibility of extension based on performance and available funding
• Full time, 40 hours per week
• Local applicants with housing and/or minimal relocation time will be strongly considered

Location:
The Technician(s) will be based out of the BLM’s Moab (UT) Field Office. Located in the heart of the Colorado Plateau in eastern Utah, the Moab Field Office encompasses 1.8 million acres of scenic canyon country. Carved by the Colorado and Green Rivers, Moab’s public lands include a vast variety of arches, natural bridges, mesas, and spires. Both offices offer tremendous access to hiking/back packing, rock climbing/ bouldering, mountain biking, fishing, and numerous other outdoor activities. Viewing sites for desert plants and animals are also easily accessible.

Qualifications:
Technical Requirements:
• Bachelors degree with coursework and field experience related to biology, botany, plant science, taxonomy/systematics, or related field;
• Experience identifying plants using taxonomic keys; familiarity with plants of the Colorado Plateau, highly desirable;
• Experience using hand-held GPS equipment for data collection and navigation;
• Ability to read and navigate using topographic maps and a compass;
• Experience using ArcGIS software, preferable; and
• Knowledge of and prior experience implementing SOS Seed Collection Protocols.
Other Requirements:
• Previous experience working within the Colorado Plateau, highly desirable;
• Willingness and ability to work in harsh, ever-changing desert conditions, including extreme temperatures, independently or as part of a team;
• Ability to bend and stoop for long periods of time while collecting seed, and to use hand tools, and occasionally lift buckets of water and other heavy loads;
• Ability to work a non-standard schedule, such as beginning at 5 am, to avoid heat-related issues, or for coordination with team members;
• Ability to communicate effectively, both written and orally, with a diverse audience;
• Willingness to camp in remote, undeveloped sites for multiple days, if necessary; and
• Valid, state-issued driver’s license and familiarity driving 4WD vehicles on- and off-paved roads.

• Successful applicant(s) must complete a Department of Interior (DOI) Background Investigation (BI); applicants already in possession of a fully adjudicated DOI BI should highlight this in their cover letter.

How to Apply:
Qualified and interested applicants should forward a cover letter (including where you found this position posted and status of DOI BI), their résumé, and a list of three professional references to Amy Gladding, HR Coordinator at agladding@thegreatbasininstitute.org.

This program is available to all, without regard to race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or religion. Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply.