

Position Announcement – Summer Field Technicians – Vegetation Data Collection

Monday, May 15th* – Friday, August 11th**

*Crew Leaders must be available beginning May 11th

**with possible extension through Friday, August 18st

Location: 4 positions in State College, PA and 4 positions in Coudersport, PA

Pay: 40 hrs/week at \$16/hr (technicians) and \$17/hr (crew leaders). Housing is also either provided or subsidized, depending on location.

Position details: The Deer-Forest Study (<https://deer.psu.edu>) is long-term research project investigating the role of deer herbivory, soils, and competing vegetation on forest plant communities. We are seeking summer field technicians to assist with data collection on permanent plots on 4 study areas. Crew members will receive two weeks of training on using GPS to find plot locations, plant identification, and how to apply the study protocol. You will spend your days finding permanent forest inventory plots, identifying and quantifying the size and abundance of trees and understory plants, and recording and archiving the data you collect. You will gain valuable skills and experience in plant identification and conducting vegetation surveys.

Key qualifications: At least two years toward a natural resources baccalaureate degree; ability to hike off-trail for up to 2 miles while carrying equipment; demonstrated plant identification skills (as evidenced by a course in plant ID, such as dendrology, and/or field experience collecting vegetation data); ability to work independently and reliably without direct supervision in challenging field conditions; and possession of a valid driver's license.

Crew Leaders: In addition to performing the duties described above, crew leaders must be able to successfully manage and lead a vegetation monitoring crew while they perform daily duties. This includes daily planning of plot visits, assessing access routes and equipment needs, and management/archiving of collected data.

Questions: Contact Justin Zweck at jzz5584@psu.edu

Application deadline: Applications reviewed as received.

To apply: Send a cover letter, résumé, transcripts, and contact information for three references (via email as a single pdf document). At least one reference should be able to comment on your plant identification skills. If you wish to be considered for a crew leader position, please explain in the cover letter your qualifications for supervising a field crew.

Email applications to:

Justin Zweck

College of Agricultural Sciences, Pennsylvania Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit

Email: jzz5584@psu.edu