



**CNPS BOTANY/ECOLOGY POSITION
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT**

FROM: CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

DATE: 12/04/2017

The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) is currently seeking to fill a full-time Ecologist/ Botanist position, classified as an Assistant Vegetation Ecologist. The position includes at least 5 months of work, beginning mid- to late-February 2018, and the position may be extended beyond summer dependent on funding.

Duties will include both office and fieldwork related to monitoring, classifying, and mapping vegetation. Tasks will include surveying vegetation, identifying/keying plants, entering data and performing quality control, organizing data and photos, researching and writing up information about vegetation, and other related tasks.

Specific field projects will include establishing long-term monitoring plots in post-fire study areas (Tulare and Kern County), vegetation sampling within the Santa Susana Mountains (Ventura and Los Angeles County), and vegetation sampling in the southern Great Basin, Mojave, and Colorado deserts (from Mono and Kern to Imperial counties). Fieldwork will be performed under rigorous conditions; e.g. up to 10 hours per day during 4-8 day sampling missions, with camping or staying at motels overnight.

Office work, including data entry, plant identification with dissecting microscope, data quality control, sorting and research of data may be conducted at a computer for up to 8 hours per day. The main office location is downtown Sacramento, but working remotely is an option.

The successful candidate will gain experience in sampling California's diverse vegetation plant assemblages, learning different techniques for collecting field data, identifying plants to the species level, and describing and representing vegetation in fine-scale classification and mapping efforts. CNPS supports a uniform system for vegetation sampling, classification, and mapping and maintains vegetation information databases. This system, developed over the past 20 years by CNPS and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), is used by both governmental and non-governmental institutions to map, categorize and describe vegetation.

Background

The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) is a statewide non-profit conservation organization (www.cnps.org) founded in 1965, with approximately 10,000 members in 35 chapters. The mission of CNPS is to increase understanding and appreciation of California's native plants and to conserve them and their natural habitats through scientific study, education, advocacy, horticulture, and land stewardship.

Qualifications for the successful applicant include the following:

Data & office skills:

- Strong organizational, verbal and written communication, analytical and computer skills (Windows Operating System, Microsoft Word, Excel, and email), and ability to keep accurate records.
- Experience with GIS, such as ESRI ArcMap, databases (e.g., Access) and/or spreadsheets (Excel)
- Proficiency in data entry, quality control, and management of both hard copy and digital data.

Field skills:

- Strong background in California plant identification and experience conducting vegetation sampling, such as the CNPS vegetation protocols.
- Ability to identify live and pressed plants, using the Jepson manual and other floras.
- Experience using GPS (Global Positioning System) or other mobile digital units and field survey equipment (e.g., compass, rangefinder, and tape measure).

- Ability to conduct fieldwork in varied environmental conditions, including inclement weather, rugged terrain and poison oak.
- Ability to drive 4X4 vehicle over variable terrain.
- Ability to interpret hard copy and digital maps, and perform regular field sampling missions.

In addition:

- At a minimum, an undergraduate degree in biology, botany, or a related field.
- A valid California driver's license, proof of current car insurance, and a safe driving record are required.
- Physical requirements include prolonged sitting, standing, bending, using a computer, driving, hiking, lifting and carrying (up to 1/3 of your body weight).
- Ability to work independently and coordinate daily tasks.
- Enthusiasm, positive attitude, and ability to work well in a team setting.

The hourly rate offered is \$17.00 to \$20.00 per hour, commensurate with experience and qualifications. The position is offered as full-time, temporary, beginning in mid to late February 2018.

To apply, submit the following materials: cover letter of interest, résumé or *curriculum vitae*, and three references (including reference name, address, phone number and email). The primary contact is Jennifer Buck-Diaz, Vegetation Ecologist. Send your application materials *via* post mail, fax, or email to:

California Native Plant Society
2707 K Street, Suite 1
Sacramento, CA 95816
Attn: Vegetation Position

Fax: (916) 447-2727

Email: jbuck@cnps.org.

Application deadline: Review of applications will begin immediately, and the announcement will remain open until filled. The CNPS website lists this job description and descriptions of our organization and our Vegetation Program at www.cnps.org.

The California Native Plant Society is an Equal Opportunity Employer M/F