

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

TEMPORARY RECRUITMENT BULLETIN

VACANCY NO: MM-07-02

POSITION: Biological Science Technician, GG-0404-05

SALARY: \$13.83 per hour

TYPE OF APPT: Temporary, Not-to-exceed 180 working days

DATE OPENED: 01/19/07

DATE CLOSED: 02/09/07

TOUR OF DUTY: Full-Time, with possible periods of part-time and intermittent work

AREA OF CONSIDERATION: All U.S. Citizens

LOCATION: Moab, UT

There is one (1) position to be hired from this announcement.

THIS IS A TEMPORARY EXCEPTED SERVICES POSITION for which all qualified applicants, with or without Federal status may apply and be considered. Appointment to these positions, however, will not convey permanent status in the Federal service. Appointment will only be for the duration of the position, normally 3-6 months. Temporary employees are covered by the Social Security Retirement System and annual and sick leave will be accrued except in intermittent status. Employees are ineligible for health and life insurance coverage.

DUTIES: Incumbent is employed by the Colorado Plateau Research Station of the Southwest Biological Science Center, assigned to a duty station in Moab, Utah. This position is member of a 2-person field team that will collect data as part of a study investigating rangeland conditions in a 210,000-ac grazing allotment in San Juan County, Utah, for The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Required skills include plant identification, identification and description of landforms, and use of hand-held computers in support of botanical studies, ecological studies, or soil-geomorphic studies. Duties will focus on field work, as follows:

- Assist team leader in planning and coordinating field trips, providing assistance with logistical arrangements as requested.
- Assist in navigating to predetermined sampling locations in rugged terrain using a magnetic compass, a hand-held Global Positioning System (GPS) unit, and digital and/or paper topographic maps.
- Assist in characterizing sampling locations on the basis of soil properties and geomorphic setting.
- Following established protocols, work in a team setting to collect quantitative field data on soil-surface stability and roughness, ground cover, the composition and structure of vascular plant communities, and the composition and structure of biological soil crust communities in low-elevation shrublands, grasslands, and pinyon-juniper woodlands.
- Use a hand-held computer to record data in the field, and assist with data-management tasks required for project documentation and the maintenance of data integrity.
- Perform routine data entry, verification, and summarization using spreadsheet software on a desktop computer.
- Maintain good working relationships with TNC, the BLM, and local ranchers.
- Maintain a productive relationship with the technician assigned to lead field studies.
- Operate a 4WD government vehicle on rough back-country roads.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Much of the field work for this position takes place in rugged, remote locations that may require long hikes with heavy equipment. Climatic conditions may range from cold and snowy to hot and dry with biting insects. The incumbent may be required to lift containers weighing up to 35 pounds in the performance of assigned duties as well as carry heavy packs into the backcountry. Field work is quite frequently in excess of 150 miles from the office and the employee is required to drive a government vehicle (4-wheel drive). The employee is expected to adapt to weather changes and conduct field work in a safe and efficient manner. Field work includes risk of injury from falls, strains, and from insect and animal bites, and involves remote backcountry camping for two 8-day periods each month during a 5-6 month field season.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** To qualify for a GG-5 you need nine months of field party experience OR three years of sub-professional experience OR three years of college with courses related to the field of employment and three months of lab or field work experience. Satisfactory completion of a field course of study may be substituted for the three months of field and/or laboratory experience. One year of college is equivalent to 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours. Sub-professional experience consists of working as a technician or aid in a laboratory or similar environment. **EQUIVALENT COMBINATION OF EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE ARE QUALIFYING.**

**BASIS OF EVALUATION:** All applicants will be evaluated on the basis of education and experience (including unpaid or volunteer experience). Applicants must meet all qualifications and eligibility requirements by the closing date of this announcement.

First preference in referral will be given to eligible applicants entitled to 10 point veteran's preference who have a compensable service-connected disability of 10 percent or more. All other qualified applicants entitled to veteran's preference will be given preference over qualified applicants not entitled to veterans' preference.

**ALL APPLICANTS MUST BE UNITED STATES CITIZENS:** Under regulations in the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, employment in this position is limited to those persons who are authorized to work in the United States. Verification of employment eligibility will be required at the time of appointment. As a condition of employment, all new employees reporting for duty with the Department of the Interior will be paid through direct deposit to a financial institution of their choice.

Applicants selected for Federal employment will be required to complete a Declaration of Federal Employment, OF-306, prior to being appointed to determine their suitability for Federal employment and to authorize a background investigation. Failure to answer all questions truthfully and completely or providing false statements on the application may be grounds for not hiring the applicant, or for firing the applicant after he/she begins work. Also, he/she may be punished by fine or imprisonment (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001).

Prior to or at the time of appointment, male applicants born after December 31, 1959, will have to certify that they have registered with the Selective Service System in order to be appointed to a position with the United States Geological Survey, unless legally qualified for an exception.

Employees of the U.S. Geological Survey are subject to the provisions of Title 43, U.S. Code, Section 31 (a) and may not according to this legislation and related regulation: (a) have any personal or private interest, direct or indirect, in lands or mineral wealth of such lands or a region under survey and whose title is in the U.S.; (b) execute surveys or examination for private parties or corporations; or (c) have personal or private interest, direct or indirect, in any private mining or mineral enterprise doing business in the U.S. except where specifically authorized by the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey.

**HOW TO APPLY:** Carefully read all information and instructions. It is the responsibility of the applicant to insure the application is complete. The personnel office will not be responsible for soliciting additional information from applicants or from official personnel records, but will consider individuals based on their applications as submitted. **Applications must be received in the U.S. Geological Survey office in KANAB, UTAH, by the closing date on the announcement in order to be considered.** An OF-612 may be obtained through the Utah Division of Workforce Services or by contacting the U.S. Geological Survey, Biological Resources Discipline at (435) 719-2331.

**Submit one of the following forms of application:**

- A. Resume OR
- B. Form OF 612, Optional Application for Federal Employment OR
- C. Other written format

**Also submit:**

College transcript or list of college courses, specifying title of course work, completion date, semester or quarter hours earned by course title, and grade earned.

To claim 5 point Veterans Preference, a DD-214 showing character of discharge is required. If claiming 10 point Veterans Preference, a SF-15 with proof of claim is required.

Apply to:

Mark E. Miller  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Southwest Biological Science Center  
190 E. Center St.  
Kanab, UT 84741  
Tele: 435.644.4325  
Fax: 435.644.4350  
Email: mark\_miller@usgs.gov

It is against the law to submit applications for employment using government franked envelopes or mail services (18 USC 1719). All such applications will not be considered.

**Whichever form of application you choose, the following must be included:**

**JOB INFORMATION:**

- Announcement number, title, and grade(s) of the job for which you are applying

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

- Full name, mailing address (with zip code) and day and evening phone numbers (with area code)
- Social Security Number
- Country of Citizenship
- Veterans Preference
- Highest Federal civilian grade held (also give job series and dates held)

**EDUCATION:**

- High school (name and address, including zip code if known)
- Colleges and Universities (name and addresses, including zip codes if known)
  - Majors
  - Type and year of any degrees received (if no degree, show total credits earned and indicate whether semester or quarter hours)
- Send a copy of your college transcripts or list of college courses completed, specify title of course, semester or quarter hours earned for each course, date completed, and grade earned.

**WORK EXPERIENCE:**

- Give the following information on your paid and nonpaid work experience related to the job for which you are applying (do not send job descriptions)
- Job title (include series and grade if Federal job)
- Duties and accomplishments
- Employer's name and address
- Supervisor's name and phone number
- Starting and ending dates (month and year)
- Hours per week
- Salary

- Indicate if we may contact your current supervisor

**OTHER QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Job-related training courses (title, length, and date taken)
- Job-related skills (i.e., other language, computer software; hardware, tools, machinery, typing speed, etc.)
- Job-related certificates and licenses (current only)
- Job-related honors, awards, and special accomplishments (i.e., publications, memberships in professional or honor societies, leadership activities, public speaking, and performance awards). Give details but do not send documents unless requested.

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OFFICE IN KANAB,  
UTAH, BY THE CLOSING DATE OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT TO BE CONSIDERED.**

THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER  
THIS AGENCY PROVIDES REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS TO APPLICANTS WITH DISABILITIES