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Location: BLM Colorado San Luis Valley & Royal Gorge Field Offices

Dates: June 5th-August 18th

Job Title: Natural Resource Specialist, Ecologist

Related Degree: Botany, Ecology, Range science, Soil science, Wildlife biology, general biology and related sciences

Position Description: This 24-week project is focused on implementing the Assessment, Inventory, & Monitoring (AIM) strategy in both the San Luis Valley and Royal Gorge Field Offices in the BLM Rocky Mountain District in Southern Colorado. The AIM strategy involves rigorous sampling of vegetation and soil communities, employs a statistically valid, spatially balanced design, and utilizes standardized methods for robust quantitative data collection in order to address Public Land Health, habitat conditions for Gunnison Sage-Grouse and other threatened or endangered species, watershed-scale land-health assessments and Resource Management Plan effectiveness. Additionally, the project entails involvement with the BLM CO Solar Regional Mitigation Strategy, the National Wind Erosion Research Network, and the newly established Browns Canyon National Monument (Taylor 2014). The project will require two interns to serve as team leads for a 24-week commitment. The team leads will be responsible for coordinating all aspects of AIM data collection while leading teams of two crewmembers each. This is a rigorous task requiring leadership skills, thorough knowledge of botany and soil science, backcountry skills, data management, and the ability to independently run a small field crew. The San Luis Valley has been implementing the AIM strategy for two field seasons and will continue efforts in 2017 and into the future, while this will be the first year of implementation in the Royal Gorge Field Office. Through the first years of work in the San Luis Valley, we have realized the rigor of the duties involved and the high caliber of the young people that it brings into public land management. The ability to provide sound opportunities for their development within the BLM and other agencies is paramount to ensure that our missions are successfully carried out into the future.

Location: White River Field Office, Meeker CO/BLM

Dates: June 5th-August 18th

Job Title: Range Technician /GIS Technician

Related Degree: GIS, Rangeland Management, Ecology, Natural Resources

Position Description: The White River Field Office (WRFO) Range Program is proposing the following project for the 2017 Resource Assistant Internship Program. The selected intern would work through the summer to build and populate the Standard Geospatial Database for reporting and mapping land health data as described in IM-CO-2012-124. The intern would work closely with the range staff to gather and compile existing assessment data to then use to populate the database. Additionally, the intern would work with the GIS staff to build an associated geodatabase. As time allows the intern would accompany interdisciplinary teams to the field and take part in several land health assessments and complete (with in-put form ID team) at least one summary determination document or an allotment. This experience would allow the intern an understanding of the complete process involved with this project.

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Location: Colorado State Office – Division of Resources and Planning/BLM

Dates: June 5th-August 18th

Job Title: Records/Information Management Intern

Related Degree: Library Sciences or Information/Data Management

Position Description: The BLM Colorado State Office (COSO) anticipates relocating to a new physical location in 2019. After twenty years in the same location, COSO Division of Resources and Planning staff has accumulated a wide range of reference and similar materials that may not meet the formal definition of federal records but serve important informational and contextual purposes. In preparation for the move, the Division must define and capture important metadata, develop a digitization plan and approach, and assist resource program leaders for the relocation. Over all, it will represent both a change in physical plant as well as approach to materials and data management. This information and data inventory and management project will use the Division of Resources and Planning as a pilot for the COSO. The resulting product will be used to inform similar analysis for the other divisions in the COSO.

Location: San Luis Valley Field Office, Colorado, Rocky Mountain District

Dates: June 5th-August 18th

Job Title: Wildlife Biologist, Natural Resource Specialist

Related Degree: Wildlife Biology, Chemistry, Biology, Ecology or other related science degree

Position Description: The internship focuses on shorebird conservation and education/outreach and is designed to engage Latinos in hands-on conservation efforts and introduce them to a variety of natural resource careers available with the federal government. EFTA employs interns at six locations in four States working with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, the National Park Service, and BLM. This DHA-RAI proposal focuses on the three interns working with the SLVFO. The internship requires strong science and fieldwork skills, as well as communication and presentation/environmental education skills. The selection of interns includes a national outreach campaign and rigorous selection process done with our partner, EFTA, to select exceptional Latino candidates. Once selected, the three SLVFO interns are placed in a 6-month internship.

Officer/State/Center: DENCA/BLM

Dates: June 5th-August 18th

Job Title: Ecologist or Wildlife Biologist

Related Degree: Ecology/Wildlife Biology

Position Description: This project would involve creating a Monitoring Transition Plan for the Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area (DENCA). DENCA was designated in 2009 and the Resource Management Plan Record of Decision is expected to be signed by January 9, 2017. This NCA is split between the Uncompahgre Field Office (UFO) and Grand Junction Field Office (GJFO). Given this split monitoring has been performed differently under the two field offices, for example land health monitoring and monitoring for resource management such as livestock grazing. With the new Resource Management Plan monitoring needs to be consistent across the unit. The Assessment, Inventory, and Monitoring Program (AIM) provides a way to monitor this landscape in a meaningful way at both unit level and at a larger landscape level. However, valuable information exists in past monitoring. Building on a past project which compiled information about all monitoring efforts within this unit, this intern for this project

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would complete a Monitoring Transition Plan for DENCA. The intern would need to complete the plan with input from specialists and managers from DENCA, UFO, and GJFO. This plan would address specific local concerns (e.g. which past points are of high value, how is this determined, and how is a continuous data stream maintained at these areas), and more broad concerns (e.g. what is a reasonable level of long term monitoring effort for RMP effectiveness). This plan once completed could act as a template for other areas (e.g. NCA's, field offices) interested in transitioning from previous monitoring efforts to AIM monitoring. This project is timely in 2017 as the DENCA RMP was just completed and monitoring must change in this unit and timely as many areas are beginning to implement AIM methods on larger scales.

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