COLORADO NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM
Position Announcement:

**TITLE:** Research Associate I/ Ecologist/Botanist Field Technicians
**NUMBER OF POSITIONS:** 1 – 6 (temporary)
**WORK LOCATIONS:** Statewide Colorado
**PAY RATE:** $2,000 - $2,400 per month, commensurate with experience
**DURATION:** 3-12 months (approx. April 2011–February 2012)

**Summary of Position:**
The Ecologist/Botanist Field Technician will conduct investigations of high-quality upland and wetland plant communities, as well as rare plants within a study area. This work involves interpreting aerial photos and other pertinent information to select sites, determining land ownership and contacting landowners regarding access, describing and demarcating plant communities, collecting vegetation, describing soils, identifying plant species, collecting voucher specimens of unknown plant species, and completing Heritage Program field survey forms. This position will require extensive travel and long days in the field. This position requires proficiency in scientific report writing, as well as experience using Microsoft Office programs and ArcGIS.

**Duties:**
1. Assist Principal Investigator with field inventories.
2. Collect vegetation and environmental data from sites selected as Targeted Inventory Areas. Classify vegetation to the plant association level. Collect plant specimens for verification and identification if needed. Assist other staff with plant species identification.
3. Identify high-quality plant communities and conservation sites which merit protection.
4. Contact and meet with private landowners as needed to arrange site access.
5. Communicate as necessary with private, local, state, or federal agency officials regarding property access and site visits.
6. Process field data into the CNHP databases and GIS layers.
7. Assist with writing final reports
8. Work with CNHP staff on other programmatic duties as needed.
9. Initiate contacts with private landowners, State and Federal Agencies and a demeanor that will facilitate this contact.

**Required Qualifications:**
1. B.S. degree or higher in botany, ecology, wetland ecology or related field.
2. Knowledge of plants and plant communities of Colorado (or nearby Southern Rocky Mountain and/or Western High Plains) including terrestrial, wetland and weed species. Familiarity with botanical dichotomous keys and the major angiosperm plant families required. Familiarity with concepts of plant community ecology and classification, and experience sampling and collecting vegetation data required.
3. Experience collecting, interpreting, and describing soils, geology and other environmental data.
4. Experience interpreting aerial photographs and topographic maps.
5. Willingness to travel much of the field season, work unusual schedules, and camp for extended periods (often 10 days) in remote areas of Colorado.
6. Careful attention to detail and a commitment to conservation of biological diversity.
7. Good written communication skills.

Preferred Skills:
2. Knowledge of and experience with Natural Heritage Program methodology preferred.

First consideration of applicants will begin March 1, 2011. Applications will be accepted for future consideration through June 30, 2011.

To apply, submit resume, cover letter, and 3 references (with phone numbers), online at the following address: http://warnercnr.colostate.edu/employment-opportunities.html.

Questions can be directed via email to Jill Handwerk, CNHP Botanist: jill.handwerk@colostate.edu OR Denise Culver, CNHP Ecologist: denise.culver@colostate.edu Applications sent via email will not be accepted.

HIRING IS CONTINGENT ON FINAL APPROVAL OF FUNDING

Colorado State University is committed to providing a safe and productive learning and living community. To achieve that goal, we conduct background investigations for all final candidates being considered for employment. Background checks may include, but are not limited to, criminal history, national sex offender search and motor vehicle history.

Colorado State University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and complies with all Federal and Colorado State laws, regulations, and executive orders regarding affirmative action requirements in all programs. The Office of Equal Opportunity is located in 101 Student Services Building. In order to assist Colorado State University in meeting its affirmative action responsibilities, ethnic minorities, women and other protected class members are encouraged to apply and so identify themselves.