

Hawaii Botanists Needed

The Pacific Islands Program of the Pacific Northwest (PNW) Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Program is preparing to conduct an inventory in the Hawaiian Islands. The first portion of this inventory is tentatively scheduled to begin in early January 2010 with a two week training in Honolulu. The inventory will then spend 8-10 weeks installing plots on Oahu (~30plots), Lanai (~ 2 plots) and Molokai (~12 plots). There is an anticipated need for 2-4 field crew members with very strong botanical skills to work on this project full time from January 4 to March 15- 31. These crew members would be based out of Oahu and travel to Lanai and Molokai to install plots. The 2010 inventory could be expanded to the Island of Hawaii if additional funding becomes available. Similar work is anticipated in subsequent years for the remaining Hawaiian Islands.

The FIA Program is part of the Forest Service's nationwide forest census and conducts forest inventories and forest health monitoring on all forestlands, across all ownership (<http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/fia>). FIA installs permanent research plots which are re-measured every 10 years. A wide range of forestry variables are collected on all plots. The Pacific Islands program of PNW FIA has installed permanent plots on American Samoa, Palau, The Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Marianas, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Primary work duties for botanists include identifying tree and understory species and collecting voucher specimens of unidentified species. Additional duties may include measuring tree diameters and heights, photo interpretation, locating inventory plots, and measuring various site conditions. Duties may also include contacting land owners and managers to obtain access to plots along with daily documentation, downloading, and editing of field data. Work conditions may be arduous and require working in inclement weather on steep, slippery, and/or brushy slopes. A significant amount of off-trail hiking is required. Some flying in helicopters is also expected.

Crew members will be responsible for learning FIA inventory procedures, interacting positively with other crew members, including working under the direction of an FIA crew leader knowledgeable in FIA protocols. Crew members are required to interact positively with contractors, local, state and federal officials, local landowners and independently resolving whatever situation may arise.

Crew members will be paid \$15-22 per hour depending on experience and will receive overtime pay for work beyond 40 hours per week. Those individuals whose home base is not on Oahu will be accommodated in hotels and will receive additional funds to pay for meals and incidental expenses.

If you are interested in participating in this inventory, please send a resume highlighting any course work in botany in Hawaii and/or related Hawaiian botanical work experience, the names of three references along with their contact info (email and phone #'s) to

Robert Pattison (rrpattison@fs.fed.us) by October 31, 2009. Interested parties are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

For more information contact:

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