

Position: **Biological Science Technician, GS-404-05**

The Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry will be advertising for a biological science technician for employment duration of approximately 1 year. The position will be a single graded position at the GS 05 level with no promotional potential. The incumbent will provide key technical assistance to scientists involved in a dry forest restoration and fine fuel reduction research project at Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA) and Puu Waawaa (PWW). The goals of this research program are to quantify restoration potential and develop restoration prescriptions for remnant Hawaiian dry forests and shrublands.

DUTIES: The incumbent will serve as a field crew member working with U.S. Forest Service staff. Work will include collection and analysis of technical field data, using standardized methods to collect information about distribution of native and non-native plants within the field sites; control non-native plants with chemical and mechanical means; coordinate the restoration activities at PTA and PWW including collection of seed from native plants, greenhouse propagation, direct seeding of native plants into field sites; and perform other duties as necessary. Work will require use of a variety of specialized tools, equipment, and materials to carry out procedures, methods and practices in support of one or more of the biological sciences. The full range of technical support work will be expected, including conducting complicated tests in the field and laboratory, following standard procedures, and preparing documents, diagrams, charts, and/or graphs for presentation. Field duties will include locating study areas, establishing study plots, gathering data related to plant taxonomic identification, soil characteristics, plant growth and mortality, and vegetation characteristics. Data will be collected from a variety of sources such as instrument readings, measurements, and/or observations.

WORK ENVIRONMENT: At least three-quarters of the work will be performed in the wildland setting. The other quarter will be performed in the office, laboratory, or greenhouse. A small portion of the work will be sedentary. The majority of the work will require the ability to work effectively and efficiently in steep, rough terrain, at times in inclement weather. Work requires occasional overnight camping at field sites.

BASIC QUALIFICATIONS: Applicants should have a bachelor's degree in Biology, Ecology, or related field, with field and laboratory experience. Applicants must have experience working in terrestrial ecosystems of Hawaii and be within commuting distance of Hilo, HI.

The position will likely open in May 2009 and will be posted at

<http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/>

*If you would like to receive a copy of the vacancy announcement, please respond via e mail to equestad@fs.fed.us no later than **May 4, 2009***

RE: Biological Science Technician Vacancy.