Hawaii Permanent Forest Plot Network FIELD Technician

One temporary, full time position located at the University of Hawaii in Hilo, Hawaii. Limited Term of 20 weeks (with possible extension). Continuation of employment is dependent upon program/operational needs, satisfactory work performance and availability of funds.

Hourly: $11/hour

Closing Date: March 21, 2008

Preferred Start Date: April 14, 2008

Duties: Technician will assist in the development of a permanent, mapped forest plot network across striking natural gradients in elevation, precipitation, and soil age. Work as part of a team to set up, tag, and map trees on the permanent forest plots as directed by HIPPNET supervisors.

Positions will be largely field work, and may involve staying in field cabins or camping up to 16 to 20 days/month; working long hours in cold, hot, wet, windy, or dry weather; driving on rough, 4 wheel drive roads; navigating with GPS units, compasses, and maps; staying safe in remote areas by using caution and good judgment; accurately collecting and recording large amounts of data, accurately identifying tropical plants, and maintaining good work relations with other members of the field team.

Work hours will vary during employment. Schedule may be altered due to inclement weather, plant phenology, vehicle maintenance, or logistic reasons. The work will involve long hours spent standing, bending, walking, and a great amount of physical exertion. The incumbent may be required to lift containers weighing up to 35 pounds.

Minimum Qualifications: Education: Bachelors Degree from an accredited four (4) year college or university. Coursework should include classes in the biological sciences including Biology, Botany, Ecology, Environmental Science, or other Biological discipline. Experience: Previous field experience collecting vegetation data. Valid driver’s license.

Abil/Know/Skills: Knowledge of botany and/or Hawaiian ecosystems. Basic knowledge of the principles of plant ecology. Ability to work effectively and positively as a member of a larger team. Willingness and ability to work long field hours in rugged terrain under inclement weather conditions. Basic computer skills, including experience with Microsoft Excel.

Desirable Qualifications: Experience working in tropical ecosystems. Experience supervising field crews. Experience using field geographic information systems (GIS) and ArcGIS software including ArcPad. Experience driving on forest roads and using a
4-wheel drive vehicle. Demonstrated commitment to the preservation of biological diversity. Inquiries: Lisa Ellsworth (808) 933-8121 ext 156 or lisaells@hawaii.edu.

Application Requirements: To apply, send resume, cover letter, contact information for 3 references, and transcripts to:

Lisa Ellsworth
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