PIERC is seeking to hire a botanist to lead the Weed Biocontrol component of our Invasive Species program. Technically, we are seeking a Research Botanist, GS-0430-12. This is a research-grade full-time Federal position, with promotion potential to GS-15. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, but the position is open to Federal and non-Federal applicants.

This position is located at the Pacific Island Ecosystems Research Center (PIERC) in Honolulu, Hawaii, a major organizational unit of Biological Resources Division (BRD) that functions under the general guidance of the Western Region. The incumbent will be a member of the Invasive Species Program and leads the Hawaii-based operation of the Plant Biocontrol Project. Responsible for pursuing a state-of-the-art biocontrol-related research program, and thus must have strong knowledge of the biology and ecology of invasive plants, the problems caused by their presence in Hawaiian and Pacific Island ecosystems, and the use of plant pathogens and other non-entomological agents as biological control agents for management of invasive plant species so as to minimize adverse impacts on native ecosystems and to prevent their spread to additional sites. Responsible for developing hypotheses and experimental designs with respect to use of pathogens or other non-entomological agents for biological control of aggressive weeds, occurring as grasses, vines, trees, shrubs, and herbaceous dicots, representing a variety of plant families and community types including coastal strand, dry and wet forest, wetland, and montane ecosystems. Responsible for research to support development of tools and procedures for managing ongoing and predicting future invasions of non-native plant species, especially as they might affect native species of the Hawaiian Islands and other Pacific Islands at risk. Maintains coordination with the U.S. Forest Service, FWS, NPS, Hawaii Department of Agriculture, Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources and with other federal and state cooperators, international organizations, and non-government organizations interest in invasive plant species. Oversees field crews to assure that experimental design and study plans are followed; manage and conduct data analysis; and prepare reports based on the data collected. May also administer contracts to universities, state and territorial governments, and others conducting research in support of island conservation needs and the needs of the Center.

Applications must be submitted via the USAJOBS website before 30 April 2004.

Go to the USAJOBS website at http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/ then search Agency = USGS, position=botanist (series = 0430), location=Honolulu. There are 2 vacancy announcements. WR-2004-0156 (PERM SPB DEU) is open to U.S. citizens who are not already Federal employees. WR-2004-0165 (PERM SPB MPP) is the same position, open to Federal employees.

Please share this email with anyone who might be interested in applying.

Mahalo nui loa for your help in finding an ambitious, astute scientist to fill this position, and to bringing new energy and talent into the fray in defending the ecosystems of Hawaii and other Pacific Islands against the onslaught of invasive weeds.

(per Dave Helweg (PIERC) email 2004.03.17)