Two Positions supporting Rangeland Analysis Platform (RAP) RAP Outreach Coordinator (1) & Rangeland Scientist (1) University of Montana (UM)

UM seeks to hire two positions, a RAP Outreach Coordinator to train multi-agency staff and partners on the utility and application of remotely sensed data products on rangelands, and a Rangeland Scientist to conduct rangeland analyses and quantify conservation outcomes.

Advantages

- Relationships with practitioners to <u>coproduce science</u> through multi-agency partnerships
- Direct collaboration with developers of the new Rangeland Analysis Platform
- Synergy created by multiple agencies integrating RAP into cross-boundary science and management
- Immersion with science team that has helped inform 9.1M acres of conservation since 2010

Overview

Ground-breaking advances in RAP-based mapping (Robinson et al. 2019, Jones et al. 2020a) and monitoring (Iones et al. 2020b) has created demand to incorporate these products into rangeland management. Successful applicants will together explore the utility of the RAP in providing data, analyses, and maps for better planning, implementation and evaluation in rangeland conservation. New capacities will collaborate to analyze vegetation and productivity of rangelands, and to train agency staff and partners on the utility and use of RAP in rangeland applications.

Qualifications

A BS or MS degree for RAP Outreach Coordinator, with a background in rangeland ecology, GIS, cooperative extension or similar field is required. A PhD for the Rangeland Scientist position, in remote sensing, rangeland ecology or similar field is required. All applicants should thrive working in cooperative and dynamic team environments with university, agency and landowner partners. Candidates should be enthusiastic and self-motivated, and willing to provide guidance, leadership and new perspectives to help instill remotely sensed information into agency actions.

Qualifications and Responsibilities

Education
BS or MS required
Technical skill sets
Technical transfer experience, GIS and cartography
Desired personal traits
Effective speaker, good writer for agency and lay audiences

Rangeland Scientist
PhD required
Spatial analyses (e.g., R, Google Earth Engine) with rangeland applications
Applied problem solver, enjoys coproduction of science with agencies

Iob Responsibilities

- RAP Outreach Coordinator is the go-to person for RAP-based outreach and technical support to the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Bureau of Land Management; develops and delivers curriculum and materials to support custom trainings and outreach activities; assists staff and partners with requests for data and support in person and online (e.g., geospatial data requests, technical questions, troubleshooting)
- Rangeland Scientist coproduces cutting-edge targeting tools and outcome-based evaluations by integrating RAP with other datasets; analyses will include novel approaches to improve monitoring of sagebrush and grassland ecosystems in light of new RAP capabilities
- Both positions work across states, agency divisions, centers, and field offices to help improve integration
 of remote-sensing technology into conservation planning and delivery

• Both identify gaps in agency needs and remote-sensing product functionality, and communicate those to product developers in order to improve and adapt

Location and compensation

We particularly welcome applications from under-represented groups including women, Native/African/Latinx Americans, and LGBTQ+. Both positions are based at UM in Missoula. Travel is required (~25%) after COVID-19 subsides. Salary is commensurate with position and experience, including university health and retirement benefits. Positions operate as letters of appointment renewed annually, for a minimum of 2+ years. Preferred start date is 1 February 2021 or sooner. To apply for either position provide 1) letter of interest, and 2) CV (with list of references) to Brady Allred (brady.allred@umontana.edu) by 15 December 2020. Please email inquiries about either position to Brady Allred, Matthew Jones (matt.jones@ntsg.umt.edu) or David Naugle (david.naugle@umontana.edu).