

Positions at the Mountain Studies Institute San Juan Mountains, Colorado Summer 2006

1) BOTANY/ECOLOGY FIELD TECHS (WETLANDS) IN THE SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS, COLORADO

DATES: June 19 through September 15, 2006 – end date is flexible

APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 1, 2006 or until filled.

The position advertised is for 1 or 2 full-time field technicians to assist in data collection. The project is a survey of peatlands in the San Juan Mountains. Data will be collected on the composition of both vascular and nonvascular plant communities, water chemistry, soil characteristics, and carbon flux. Position is with the Mountain Studies Institute (MSI). Supervisors are Dr. David Cooper, Colorado State University, & Dr. Rod Chimner, Michigan Tech University.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Duties include soil sampling, water chemistry data collection, assistance with vegetation sampling, and GPS navigation.

QUALIFICATIONS: Four-year college/university degree or currently pursuit of a degree in ecology, natural resource management, range management, botany, forestry, watershed science, soils or other similar areas is preferred. Must be in good physical condition, be capable of long hikes in rugged terrain while carrying a backpack. Bulk of the work will be performed in the backcountry of the San Juan Mountains in variable climatic conditions. Trips into the backcountry may last up to five days and will involve hiking both on and off trail. Ability to work under these conditions is essential. Skills in the following areas are valuable: experience with backcountry travel, wilderness safety & first aid training & working well in an isolated team setting. Experience with relevant fieldwork & plant identification skills are desirable, but not necessary. Valid driver's license & safe driving record required.

SALARY: \$1200-1400/month depending on experience

APPLICATION PROCESS: E-mail a 1-2 page resume and cover letter, including three references with telephone numbers and email addresses, to the contact information below. Please indicate availability as dates are somewhat flexible.

CONTACT: Joanna Lemly
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, Colorado
email: jlemly@cnr.colostate.edu

2) MOUNTAIN ECOLOGY INTERNSHIP FOR FORT LEWIS COLLEGE STUDENT

One internship is available working with Dr. Nydick with the Mountain Studies Institute. Academic Credit is available through the Fort Lewis College Biology Department.

Dates: Approximately July 20-Aug 20, 2006. Dates are somewhat flexible.

Responsibilities: Assist with high-elevation lake, stream, and plant ecology studies. Includes sampling water, monitoring plants, taking field notes, and processing samples in the field and lab. Some camping will be required.

Qualifications: Must be a student at Fort Lewis College, Durango, CO. Ecology background, interest in ecology & mountains, attention to detail, organization, and ability to carry a heavy backpack, camp in mountains, and work in strenuous mountain conditions. Valid US Drivers License required. Experience with field work preferred.

Compensation: Stipend is \$1,000.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 1, 2006 or until filled.

TO APPLY: email cover letter, resume, and names and contact info for 2 references to:

Dr. Koren Nydick, koren@mountainstudies.org. Email preferred.
Mountain Studies Institute
Dept. of Geosciences
Fort Lewis College
Durango, CO 81301
Ph: 970-247-7071

3) WILDERNESS CONSERVATION ECOLOGY COURSE, SAFETY TEACHING ASSISTANT

Free tuition and lodging for this course is available to a person certified in Wilderness First Aid or higher medical training and experienced in backcountry mountain travel. Will be responsible for group safety in the rare case of an emergency if the instructor has to leave the group. Course runs July 31-August 19 out of MSI's Field Station in Silverton with three camping excursions and 7 days overnight at the Station. Three credits available as an Independent Study in Biology to Fort Lewis College students. Course taught by Dr. Michael Kelrick, Truman State University. It's an awesome class combining conservation ecology and backcountry skills!!

Application Deadline: May 1, 2006 or until filled.

TO APPLY: email cover letter, resume, and names and contact info for 2 references to:

Dr. Koren Nydick, koren@mountainstudies.org. Email preferred.
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Other positions were advertised recently but are now closed:

Ecology Field/Lab Technician; Lake Survey Techs; Environmental Education Intern; and Operations Manager.

Check back for more opportunities with MSI in the future!

The Mountain Studies Institute (MSI) is a not-for-profit 501 (c) 3 mountain research and education institution established in 2002 in Silverton, Colorado. MSI's mission is to enhance understanding and sustainable use of the San Juan Mountains through research and education. MSI facilitates and directs academic study, field research, data collection and dissemination, maintains an on-line bibliography www.mountainstudies.org and GIS database, provides facilities and logistical support, is part of a regional community forestry demonstration project, participates in community-based planning activities, and serves as a sustainable economic development model for mountain communities. The Institute serves college and university students, educators, researchers, land and environmental managers, elected officials and the public within and beyond the region.

Research, teaching and outreach is at the core of the Mountain Studies Institute's (MSI) economic and ecological sustainability work in Silverton, San Juan County, and Southwest Colorado's 14-County San Juan Mountain Region. MSI is a mountain research and education institution operating a high altitude field station facility in Silverton, and offices, established in November 2005, on campus at Fort Lewis College in Durango. MSI infrastructure also includes two historic properties in Silverton, the Avon Hotel and Mayflower Mill, MSI leases and operates as its field station and field laboratory, respectively. Additionally, MSI established the San Juan Mountains Center (SJMC) in 2003 in partnership with the FS/BLM: San Juan Public Lands and San Juan Mountains Association. The Center is a public lands information, mountain education and interpretive center that received 12,000 visitors during the 2005 summer season.

To apply send cover letter (including your availability), resume, and names and contact info for 3 references to: