



ACE EPIC USFS (CA): Tahoe National Forest, Botany Technician

Summary: American Conservation Experience, a nonprofit Conservation Corps, in partnership with the Tahoe National Forest is seeking three Botany Technicians. This opportunity is intended for enthusiastic professionals with a deep interest in advancing their career goals in natural resource management and conservation.

The Botany Technicians will plan, participate in, and conduct a variety of field studies of native and non-native botanical species and their habitats. They will coordinate with the Forest Service botanist in developing data collection plans for use in habitat and species condition analyses. The member will also meet with others to plan and coordinate work efforts, discuss technical requirements, and present study findings or discuss technical problems encountered or anticipated during project work. An appreciation of the outdoors and an interest in the beautiful Sierra Nevada is key to this position.

Start Date: ASAP in May.

End Date: 22 weeks after start date

Location: Yuba River and American River Ranger Districts, which cover the western portion of the Tahoe National Forest

The Tahoe National Forest is located in the northern Sierra Nevada (east of Sacramento) and extends from the foothills across the Sierra crest to the California state line. It includes over 850,000 acres of public land interspersed with 350,000 acres of private land in a checkerboard ownership pattern. Rivers, snow-capped peaks and dense forests offer outstanding recreation year-round. A complex set of ecosystems are found as the terrain ascends from 1,500 feet along the western boundary to over 9,000 feet along the crest. The forest provides a variety of resources and recreational opportunities and is managed by the US Forest Service.

Project Websites: For more information on ACE, please click [here](#). For more information about Tahoe National Forest, please click [here](#).

Living Allowance: The member should anticipate serving 40 hrs/wk and will receive a living allowance of \$858/wk for food and incidentals, dispersed bi-weekly.

Housing: Housing may be available at a daily rate of approximately \$10-20 per day.

Project Objectives:

Plant Surveys

- Independently, or as a project leader, plans, participates, and conducts a variety of field studies of native and non-native botanical species and their habitats. Independently organizes work efforts with other technicians and professionals who are involved with relevant projects.
- Schedules, organizes, and executes botanical surveys involving native and/or non-native species and collects data for use in habitat and species effects analysis.
- Collects survey and inventory data to determine species identity, population characteristics, environmental conditions and factors affecting the vigor and extent of the species and their habitat.

- Resolves common administrative and safety concerns related to the projects. Improves, adapts, and develops techniques, methods, and equipment based on experience, practical knowledge, and prescribed procedures. Uses botanical keys and field guides to identify plants encountered during field trips or surveys of forest areas
- Plans and coordinates surveys of botanical and invasive target species using spatial data.
- Compiles and summarizes the data obtained from surveys, inventories, biological evaluations and monitoring. Data entered into Forest Service databases.
- Uses computer systems and associated software for recording, organizing, storing, and analyzing data.

Invasive Plant and Rare Plant Monitoring

- Performs monitoring and mapping of known and new invasive and rare plant populations.
- Identifies target rare plants and invasive plants using field guides and botanical keys, surveys for target plants, and responsible for collecting accurate data on location and status of target plants.
- Treatments of invasive plants primarily involve hand-pulling, hand tools, power tools, or mowers.
- Performs physical labor and daily hiking, often to remote locations in rugged terrain under sometimes adverse weather conditions
- Uses global positioning systems (GPS), aerial photographs, topographic maps, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), or compass in navigation
- End of season dedicated to data entry and other duties in office setting.

Qualifications: Applicants will hold (or be pursuing) a bachelor's degree in a natural resource field, and have experience with botany, either in the field or through coursework. Individuals with Master's degrees are highly encouraged to apply. This is a highly demanding outdoor job that requires substantial physical fitness and mobility, participation in the field, and a tolerance for adverse weather and demanding conditions.

Training Provided: The Forest Service will provide the member with supervision and training with a botanist to learn about botanical disciplines (e.g. invasive plant removal techniques, GIS mapping, quantitative and qualitative plant monitoring, plant systematics and taxonomy, seed collection and restoration techniques). Nonetheless, a foundational knowledge of botany and plant identification is required for this position.

Preferred Skills:

- Experience driving 4x4 and/or all-wheel drive vehicles safely in off-road conditions
- Experience hiking over remote, steep, and rocky terrain in adverse weather conditions (cold/hot temps, light rain, etc.)
- Ability to navigate in remote areas using GPS, mobile devices, and maps
- Ability to work as part of a team to meet project goals, as well as independently to complete survey tasks
- Familiarity with Microsoft Excel, ArcMap, and ArcGIS Online applications.
- Competency in data entry work, summarizing and compiling data
- Leadership experience and conflict resolution

Required:

- Must have botany and plant identification skills and be willing to learn additional key skills
- Knowledge of basic taxonomic principles and characteristics of major plant families and

- experience using taxonomic keys
- Knowledge of the technical processes, procedures and techniques related to biological science samples, measurements, and analysis
- Ability to perform the essential duties of the position with or without reasonable accommodation
- Proven ability to be both self-directed/work alone, and be a positive, contributing member of a group
- Must be able to communicate clearly and concisely with resource professionals
- Proficient in English
- U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident
- A valid driver's license and an insurable driving record (documentation to be provided upon request)
- Ability to pass a federal criminal background check
- ACE is a drug free workplace and reserves the right to drug test at any time
- Members must be at least 21 to apply for any ACE position that requires or anticipates operation of agency or ACE vehicles for duties.

The member must be willing to represent ACE and the Forest Service in a professional, positive and enthusiastic manner.

To Apply: Please submit a resume, cover letter, and 3 professional references using the APPLY NOW section located on the upper right hand corner of the position listing on our website here: <https://usaconservationepic.applicantpool.com/jobs/>

Note: Early consideration will be given as applications are received. This position may close at any time. If you have any questions regarding this position, please feel free to contact ACE USFS Member Coordinator, Amanda McGarry, at amcgarry@usaconservation.org or 385-271-4072.

EEO: American Conservation Experience provides equal employment opportunities (EEO) to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability or genetics. In addition to federal law requirements, American Conservation Experience complies with applicable state and local laws governing non-discrimination in employment in every location in which the company has facilities.