

Ecologist

Position Description:

River Design Group, Inc. (RDG) is seeking an Ecologist to join us in our Whitefish, Montana office. RDG is an interdisciplinary water resources consulting firm that focuses on the analysis, design and implementation of river, floodplain, and wetland restoration projects throughout the Northwest U.S. The ideal candidate will possess strong field, office, and geospatial analysis skills with a demonstrated background in the application of ecological and geospatial principles to river, floodplain, wetland, and riparian vegetation restoration projects.

Please visit our website at www.riverdesigngroup.com for more information about the firm's professional services and workplace culture.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in Ecology, Natural Resources, Earth Sciences, or related field. Master's degree preferred.
- Minimum of one year of related work experience. Applicable Master's thesis research project experience can be substituted for work experience.

Responsibilities

- Perform **wetland delineation** field work and reporting tasks.
 - Identify and inventory wetland and upland plants, and map invasive weeds.
 - Excavate soil pits, identify soil properties, and distinguish hydric soil indicators.
 - Identify wetland hydrology indicators, and map wetland boundaries using GPS.
 - Create maps of wetland delineation results and analyze LiDAR surfaces and UAS orthophotos to supplement the field delineation of wetlands when necessary.
 - Write wetland delineation reports and perform wetland impact analyses.
- Assist with preparation of state and federal **permitting** documents for environmental compliance.
- Complete **field work** in support of vegetation assessments, planting and seeding plans, and project monitoring.
- Participate in **riparian vegetation restoration design** projects by working collaboratively with an interdisciplinary design team consisting of hydrologists, geomorphologists, engineers, hydraulic modelers, ecologists, and project managers.
- Complete **geospatial analysis** of watersheds, rivers, and wetlands.
- Produce **cartographic products** for a variety of restoration projects and reporting tasks, including vicinity maps, conceptual restoration design plans, results of spatial analyses and field assessments, and hydraulic modeling output.

Skill Requirements

- Knowledge, skill, and ability to perform wetland delineations in accordance with US Army Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual (1987) methodologies.
- Knowledge of the principles of restoration ecology and desire to translate those principles to ecological restoration projects.
- Ability to identify riparian and wetland vegetation.

- Experience with ESRI ArcGIS software.
- Ability to perform raster- and vector-based GIS analyses.
- Ability to prepare, edit, and format documents using Microsoft Word.

Additional Qualifications

- Proficiency in Microsoft Word and Excel, and preparing, editing, and formatting documents and spreadsheets.
- Ability to work in a wide range of field conditions and travel out of town frequently during the field season.

This position is a full-time career path position with a typical 40-hour work week. Salary will be established based on qualifications and experience. RDG is an equal opportunity employer and offers a competitive compensation package including employer-paid medical and dental insurance, a 401K retirement plan with employer match, paid time off, and paid holidays.

For consideration, please email a cover letter and resume to: info@riverdesigngroup.com

Position posting date: **February 22, 2023**

Position is open until filled.

Anticipated start date: **May 15, 2023**; Negotiable.