

Rangeland Ecology Research Technician

USDA-ARS Rangeland Resources & Systems Research Unit, Ft. Collins, CO/Cheyenne, WY



Are you interested in working at the intersection of conservation and agricultural production in rangelands? Join our research team!

Our research focuses on (1) developing invasive plant control strategies for rangeland ecosystems, and (2) understanding plant community responses to both management (e.g., livestock grazing) and global change (e.g., N deposition, drought). We use a variety of techniques to quantify plant communities (production, species composition), plant populations (growth/reproduction of individual plants over time), plant species' traits, and soil resources, at USDA-ARS research stations in northeast Colorado and southeast Wyoming.

We will be hiring three positions, beginning in late April or early May. Most of the work will focus on studying how well targeted cattle grazing works to control invasive cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) in mixed-grass rangelands. These positions involve a mix of field work (~75%) and laboratory/office work (~25%), which can require extended periods of standing/sitting while accomplishing detailed experimental procedures. Field work, while rewarding, will expose you to a wide range of weather conditions in a treeless landscape. Our ideal candidates have experience/skills in ecology, biology or related sciences; plant identification skills; ability to safely operate/maintain work vehicles; ability to work independently and as part of a research team; keen attention to detail, enthusiasm for learning, and a positive attitude.

Position details:

Hours: Full time, 40 hrs per week

Dates: April 22, May 6, or May 13 (flexible start)—August 16, 2024

Pay: GS-03 or GS-04, \$15.93-17.88/hour, commensurate with experience

Paid leave: 4 hrs annual leave & 4 hrs sick leave per 2-week pay period

[see next page for application instructions]

HOW TO APPLY:

Please e-mail your (1) resume, (2) transcripts (unofficial is fine), and (3) a cover letter detailing your interest in the position, availability, and any relevant experience to Julie.Kray@usda.gov. You may also email Julie with any questions about the position.

Applications will be reviewed and interviews scheduled on a rolling basis. Applications must be received no later than March 1st, 2024.

Learn more about some of the projects we'll be working on:

[Targeted grazing](#) to control invasive cheatgrass in mixed-grass rangelands

[Disturbance & Resources Across Global Grasslands](#) experiment

[Restoration seed mixes based on plant traits](#) to establish plant communities resistant to drought and invasion

[Our research unit's webpage](#), to learn about what we're working on as a larger group

