



Forest Ecologist

Job Title: Forest Ecologist

Reports to: Executive Director

Start Date: As early as April 1st, open until filled, applications reviewed as received

Hours: Full-time (35-40 hours/week, flexible schedule)

Rate: \$32-36/hour, DOE

Other benefits: 100% health benefits coverage, 50% dental and vision, paid vacation accrual, sick leave, family leave, flexible schedule with remote work when not in field

About Sierra Streams Institute: Sierra Streams Institute is a watershed monitoring, research, restoration and educational group based in Nevada City, California in the Sierra Nevada foothills. Our mission is to promote scientific knowledge and stewardship of Sierra Nevada watersheds through research, restoration, education, and community science. Over the past two decades, SSI has grown to become a vitally important voice in the regional scientific community. At Sierra Streams Institute, we believe in science to work on behalf of environmental and human health. As a community science organization first and foremost, we manage forest health projects in concert with regional partners with a focus on community involvement, climate-smart planning using cutting edge, data-driven approaches, and take a “process-based” approach to management, embracing prescribed fire, overall forest health, and embracing natural history.

Job Description: The SSI Forest Ecologist is responsible for Project management of Forest Health and Ecology projects in concert with Forestry Technicians as available. Specifically, the Forest Ecologist at SSI will perform the following:

- Report to and work closely with the Executive Director and Science Director(s) on current SSI Projects that focus on Forest Health, including planning and implementation projects focused on fuel reduction and prescribed fire.
- Take on role of Project Manager on forest restoration projects, which includes budgeting, reporting, partner communication, and timely completion of deliverables
 - Current active projects include climate-smart forest treatments on private properties in the Jones Bar Firewise community, Nevada City School of the Arts, and Shady Creek outdoor school, as well as Bureau of Land Management properties
- Supervise SSI forestry technician (through Spring 2025)
- Manage contractors already conducting implementation through Spring 2025
- Manage budgets and reporting, working with the Finance Director to submit invoices
- Work closely with Executive Director to pursue grant funding for Forestry projects as they become available or are developed either internally or with partners
- Act as Point-of-Contact for SSI forest health issues
- Coordinate with and support other SSI programs where Forest Ecologist assistance is supportive (for example, Education programs focused on Forest Health, public outreach, etc.)
- Remain up to date regarding scientific advancements and studies in the field of forest ecology



Qualifications:

- Minimum BS in Forestry, Environmental Science, or related field, MS preferred.
- Minimum 2 years experience conducting forest inventories and collecting forest health data
- ArcGIS Pro experience, including entering and managing data, syncing field and desktop data, and mapping parcel boundaries and treatments
- Knowledge of Sierra Nevada Forest ecosystems including species, fire history, and general regional ecology
- Experience managing budgets, contractors, and other aspects of project management
- Registered Professional Forester preferred, but not required

To apply, please email jeff@sierrastreamsinstitute.org with the subject title “Forest Ecologist Application”, and include a cover letter, resume, and up to three references.