

Contract Position: Field Plant Ecology



The Angert Lab is looking for two enthusiastic people to work as a team collecting demographic data during our annual range-wide survey of the riparian plant, scarlet monkeyflower. The project aims to understand how plant population dynamics vary along latitudinal and elevational gradients; how populations recover from extreme climatic events; and how rapid evolution increases population persistence under climate change. For more, see angert.github.io

Expected duties

The data collection team will work with Dr. Angert for one week, beginning in ~late August (exact date TBD), to become proficient in site relocation and data collection methods across a representative sample of sites. Upon completion of training, the team will continue to complete data collection independently across all remaining sites (22 in total, from southeastern California to central Oregon). Duties include: (1) relocating sites and plots from written descriptions, photos, and GPS records; (2) censusing survival of previously recorded plants; (3) measuring size and reproduction of marked individual plants; (4) mapping and tagging new recruits; (5) maintaining plot markers; and (6) collecting fruits off-plot.

Required qualifications

- Positive attitude, great work ethic, and strong communication skills;
- An upper undergraduate student or recent graduate who has taken at least one ecology course and is excited to participate in field ecological research;
- A valid driver's license and ability to work in the US;
- Ability to complete repetitive tasks and work outside for long periods of time in potentially adverse conditions (e.g., in high or low temperatures, with poison oak and blackberry bramble, and travelling off-trail with slippery or uneven footing);
- Ability to work away from home and be on the road from ~ late August until data collection is complete (~late September or early October); and
- Fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

Other desired skills include

- Familiarity with plant identification;
- Previous field experience; and
- Experience in extended remote camping and driving on 4WD roads

Compensation and application

\$3000 upon completion of the work, plus all fuel and camping expenses. To apply, please send an email to amy.angert@botany.ubc.ca describing your interest in the position and relevant qualifications, and attach your CV. Please include the subject line “monkeyflower demography” to ensure your application is identified. Review of applications will begin July 18.