

**January 17, 2023**

**Position Title:** Nursery Technician

**Employer:** University of California, Davis

**Location:** USDA Forest Service Placerville Nursery, Camino, CA

**Dates:**

Application deadline: February 3, 2023

Start date: February 20, 2023

End date: June 8, 2023 (with potential to extend)

**Compensation:**

Pay: \$20.74/hr with a bachelor's degree or equivalent experience; \$14-\$18/hr without a bachelor's or equivalent. The nursery technician will also receive holiday pay, sick leave, and options for health insurance coverage.

**Position Overview:**

UC Davis is hiring a nursery technician in collaboration with the USDA Forest Service to work at the Placerville Nursery. The technician will work with the Supervisory Horticulturist to cultivate seeds of Baker cypress, a rare serotinous conifer known from only 11 populations. One of these populations was extirpated by the 2021 Dixie Fire. The project will assist in the production of seedlings for use in a restoration project to re-establish Baker cypress at this site. Additional work will include the production and screening of various white pine candidate seedlings for use in the White Pine Blister Rust Program.

**Job Description:**

The nursery technician can anticipate supporting day-to-day greenhouse activities including but not limited to:

- Seed processing from collected cones and sowing of Baker cypress and white pine species.
- Monitoring seedling germination and growth rates of different populations of Baker cypress.
- Assisting with Ribes and white pine species rust inoculations and subsequent evaluations.
- Irrigation and fertilization of greenhouse and outside seedlings.
- Updating and maintaining seed inventory.
- Weed removal from seedling containers and repotting as needed.
- Basic data entry.
- General landscape maintenance around greenhouses (weeding, trimming, general cleanup).

**Required qualifications:**

**Education:** Upper division college coursework or equivalent experience in ecology, botany, forestry, range science, or related natural science field. To qualify for the higher pay grade a bachelor's degree in the natural sciences is required.

**Experience:** A minimum of one season of related nursery or horticultural work or multiple relevant coursework experiences.

**Preferred qualifications:**

- Experience working in a nursery or other horticultural setting.
- Enthusiasm for horticulture and genetic conservation.
- Ability to maintain a positive attitude in physically demanding and/or uncomfortable conditions.
- Knowledge of and experience with Microsoft Excel for data entry purposes.
- Excellent organizational skills and detail-oriented approach.

**Physical Demands:** Ability to lift up to 45 pounds, work in a freezer environment, and perform repetitive tasks.

**Covid-19 Precautions:**

Crews will be expected to carefully follow required Covid-19 precautions outlined by their supervisors (and required by the University of California and/or the USDA Forest Service). We expect employees to help protect the health of their fellow crew members by acting responsibly.

**To Apply (please follow these instructions exactly):**

Send a cover letter, CV/resume (2 pages maximum), and three references (including name, organization, phone, email, and relationship to you) to Kyle Merriam at [kyle.merriam@usda.gov](mailto:kyle.merriam@usda.gov), no later than February 3, 2023. Combine all application materials into **a single pdf** with your last name at the beginning of the file name and write "2023 Nursery Technician, UC Davis" in the subject line of your email. Applications not following these instructions will not be considered. Thank you for your interest!