



Employment Opportunity

Position Title: Research Technician, Fire Stewardship Program

Reports To: Research and Extension Leads

Status: Full-time, temporary

Location: Smithers, British Columbia

Salary: Starting at \$32.00/hr plus 4% vacation pay

Start Date: May 1, 2025

Application Closing Date: March 31, 2025

Who we are:

The Bulkley Valley Research Centre (BVRC) is a research hub based in Smithers, British Columbia (BC) within Gitdumden Clan Territory of the Wet'suwet'en Nation. The BVRC is an independent, non-profit organization founded in 2002 with a mission to support high-quality, inter-disciplinary research that informs natural resource management in BC. The BVRC undertakes research and learning to support decisions, promote discussion, learning and adaptation to meet the natural resource challenges of the 21st century. The BVRC connects scientists, First Nations, all levels of governments, resource managers, industry, and community members to address the stewardship of our natural resources. The BVRC facilitates research programs, extension services, and knowledge dissemination.

Our research initiatives are often multi-year and collaborative. The BVRC provides a single point of contact for a diversity of perspectives to meet and engage. The BVRC has an interdisciplinary emphasis, and research projects draw from and combine expertise. In addition to the valuable knowledge generated through long-standing research programs, the BVRC has served as an incubator for the establishment of initiatives such as the Skeena Knowledge Trust, the Silviculture Innovation Program and now the Fire Stewardship Program. The BVRC connects researchers with each other and the wider community through seminar series, workshops, conferences, and other networking events.

The BVRC is managed by an Executive Director and administrative staff, with research scientists and technicians running programs and projects, overseen by an active Board of Directors. Please visit our website <https://bvcentre.ca/> to learn more about us.

Fire Stewardship Program:

The Fire Stewardship Program is a co-led BVRC initiative that supports knowledge and extension needs surrounding proactive fire management (prescribed and cultural fire) in northwest BC to manage ecosystems for multiple values.

To support fire practices that enhance intentional fire management systems, ecosystem health and climate change adaptation, the Fire Stewardship Program will support research, extension and collaboration with First Nations, governments, and communities. The Fire Stewardship Program will work collaboratively with other programs at the BVRC such as the Silviculture Innovation Program.

Position summary:

The BVRC is seeking a motivated, organized, and experienced Research Technician to work collaboratively with an existing field team to conduct field-based data collection in the summer of 2025. In addition, the technician will work through the year supporting data/image analysis, report writing, and project delivery.

Responsibilities:

Responsibilities include but are not limited to the following:

- Work with Lead Research and Extension Scientists to develop data collection strategies to meet the scientific objectives of the study,
- Support planning for the field season, including transportation, accommodations, and safety,
- Support Lead Research and Extension Scientists and Program Manager in liaising with project partners,
- Conduct field work in the project area (from Burns Lake to Terrace region).
- Budget tracking and reporting,
- Conduct basic data compilation and analysis (camera traps, audio recorders, tree ring measurements, social science survey data),
- Support the application of prescribed and cultural fire (prescription support writing, fieldwork pre- and post-burn and day of burn operations),
- Collaborate with the program team and partners in producing both summary and final reports.

Candidate Profile:

A Bachelor's degree (BSc, BSF) in a relevant field (e.g. forestry, forest science, environmental science, biology, geography) and 2+ years of experience supporting field projects.

Fireline experience and certifications (fire suppression courses S-100, S-100A, S-185 would be an asset – please list all current fireline certifications in your application).

Knowledge/Skills:

- Strong interest in and commitment to strategic goals of the BVRC,
- Proven field management skills,
- Thrives and able to support others to thrive in difficult outdoor work settings, including remote terrain, and all-weather conditions,
- Valid BC class 5 driver's license with experience on forest industry roads,
- Experience using and maintaining forest mensuration and wildlife camera equipment,
- An adherence to the highest standards of safety,

- Data and sample collection, storage, and quality checking,
- An understanding of BC forestry and fire practices would be an asset.

Complexity/Problem solving:

- Strong problem-solving skills,
- Ability to adapt to changing circumstances and working environments,
- Strategic thinking skills, including the ability to make decisions independently and in collaboration.

Communications/Interpersonal Skills:

- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal,
- Ability to collaborate with a diverse group of individuals in close working conditions,
- Ability to motivate others in achieving high-quality work in a safe and positive environment.

Terms of Employment:

This is a full-time, temporary position starting May 1st, 2025, and ending April 30th, 2026 with a potential to renew for up to two years. Hours of work will vary between 35 – 40 hours/week, with lower weekly hours when based in the office, and higher weekly hours when in the field. The starting salary is \$32.00/hr, plus 4% vacation pay, commensurate with the candidate's qualifications and experience. This position is based in Smithers, BC, but a partially remote position (if living in the NW region) would be acceptable if the candidate can spend 50% of their time at the Smithers office. The successful candidate should be prepared to travel across the central interior of BC. Applicants must be legally eligible to work in Canada.

Additional Information:

At the BVRC, we value diversity — in backgrounds and in experience. A diverse team enables the Centre to better achieve its objective of supporting *research and extension in the public interest*. BVRC is an equal opportunity employer and committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workplace and in science. We strongly encourage applications from members of groups that are underrepresented and/or historically excluded from these sectors to apply.

While not a requirement for this position, please note in your application if you are aged 30 years or younger, which would support funding opportunities through the Canadian government.

Apply:

To explore this opportunity further, please send a cover letter and resume with title formats as follows:

Resume: "(Last Name) (First Name) – Resume"

Cover letter: "(Last Name) (First Name) – Cover letter"

Email subject: "[Your Name] – Application for Research Technician"

Email to: kira.hoffman@bvcentre.ca

Closing Date: March 31st, 2025

We appreciate all applications, however only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.