REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

PURPOSE

The Grand Canyon Trust is accepting proposals for: Arizona Public Lands Field Technician

PROPOSALS DUE BY: February 8, 2026
SUBMIT PROPOSAL TO: careers@grandcanyontrust.org with the subject line: AZPL Field Technician

ABOUT THE GRAND CANYON TRUST

Since 1985, the Grand Canyon Trust has been a leading voice in regional conservation on the Colorado Plateau. From protecting the Grand Canyon from continued threats to helping establish and protect national monuments in southern Utah, the Trust works tirelessly to protect the Colorado Plateau's remarkable landscapes, while respecting the rights of its Native peoples.

We are a non-profit conservation organization dedicated to ensuring the region's public lands, native species, communities, and cultures thrive. We are a dynamic and passionate team that values communication and collaboration to achieve ambitious goals. ***We are committed to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion in every aspect of our organization.*** Learn more at www.grandcanyontrust.org

The Grand Canyon Trust's Arizona Public Lands program works towards intact and ecologically resilient public lands in northern Arizona through collaboration, conservation science, and climate adaptation. In addition to being an advocate and a steward, the Trust also holds the livestock grazing permits for over 800,000 acres of public lands.

SCOPE OF WORK

Overview: Grand Canyon Trust seeks a field technician to support our science-based public lands conservation advocacy and stewardship on the Arizona Strip and Grand Canyon's North Rim. The technician will report to the Arizona Public Lands director and help survey land health and infrastructure on grazed public lands, review and summarize literature and data on soil and plant conditions, review and organize grazing information, and other assessments as needed.

The contractor will perform services independently, including any solo field work, and is solely responsible for determining and maintaining appropriate safety practices necessary to perform the services. The contractor will provide all tools, equipment, and transportation required to perform the work. Contractor must have reliable, self-provided transportation suitable for travel to remote field sites, including unpaved and rugged road conditions, and will be solely responsible for all transportation-related risks. Contractor acknowledges that access to field sites may require travel on dirt roads and in variable terrain.

Deliverables:

1. Independently implement in-field land health assessments, including plant species and soil conditions, at ~60 pre-determined survey points using provided protocols on the North Rim and Arizona Strip.
2. Gather and summarize soil and plant condition information for northern Arizona public lands from other publicly available sources, including reviewing and compiling scientific literature and monitoring data.
3. Organize field-based and digital information to help inform public lands grazing management, including data gathering and assessment and management plan tracking.
4. As needed, assist with in-field condition assessments of infrastructure (e.g., fences) and focal areas (e.g., wetlands) at pre-determined locations using provided protocols and make recommendations for repair or restoration.
5. Maintain strong working relationships with land managers, ranchers, and other local stakeholders.

Detailed scope of work:

1. Implement land health assessments, including plant species and soil conditions, at ~60 pre-determined survey points using provided protocols. (Approximate percentage of time = 55%)
    a. Locate and navigate to pre-determined survey points in areas of the North Rim and Arizona Strip, including the North Kaibab Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest, Vermilion Cliffs National Monument, and portions of Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni National Monument in desert grassland, pinyon-juniper woodland, ponderosa pine and mixed conifer forests (3,000-8,500 ft asl).
    b. Complete land health assessments during seasonally appropriate times (e.g., fall and/or spring for low elevation, summer for high elevation), tabulate data, and summarize information in area reports.
2. Gather and summarize land health information for northern Arizona public lands from other publicly available sources, including reviewing and compiling scientific literature and monitoring data. (Approximate percentage of time = 30%)
    a. Obtain, review, and summarize relevant scientific literature and monitoring data related to land health for grazed areas of northern Arizona national forests and national monuments (including the land health assessment area described in #1), focusing on plant composition, soil conditions, and ground cover.
    b. Compile other publicly available data, including agency monitoring data, relevant to plant composition and ground cover for grazed areas of northern Arizona national forests and national monuments.
3. As needed, assist with in-field condition assessments of infrastructure (e.g., fences) and focal areas (e.g., wetlands) at pre-determined locations using provided protocols and make recommendations for repair or restoration. (Approximate percentage of time = 5%)
    a. As needed, complete assessments of fence conditions, including wildlife-friendly characteristics, based on provided maps and protocols in the land health assessment area described in #1.
    b. As needed, complete assessments on wetlands or other areas of concern based on provided maps and protocols in to-be-determined focal areas of northern Arizona national forests and monuments.
    c. Provide recommendations for repair and/or restoration based on assessments.
4. Organize field-based and digital information and help inform public lands grazing management, including data gathering and assessment and management plan tracking. (Approximate percentage of

time = 10%)

   a. Work with Arizona Public Lands director, ranchers, and agencies to gather, track, and organize information on seasonal grazing in the land health assessment area described in #1.
   b. Review land and allotment management plans. Summarize action needs and provide action recommendations. Work with AZPL Director to plan and track progress on actions as needed.
   c. Organize and track reports in a provided database.

5. Communicate positively and proactively with all outside contacts (agency, ranching, local community, etc.) when communication is needed. (Applicable to all work hours)

Target Contract Start Date: March 1, 2026

Target Contract End Date: November 15, 2026

Contract Term: ~9 months depending on start date, with possible option to renew after first year.

Schedule: Contractor can propose hours and schedule, including seasonal hours.

Estimated Budget: $30,000 through November 15, 2026, inclusive of travel costs.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

To reach these goals, the Grand Canyon Trust is now accepting proposals.

Submit your proposal to careers@grandcanyontrust.org with the subject line "AZPL Field Technician" by February 8, 2026.

Please include the following in your proposal:

1. Name/Company Name
   Mailing Address
   Company Location, if different from mailing address
   Phone Number
   Email Address
   Website, if applicable

2. Company Ownership, if applicable
   Year your company was established, if applicable

3. Qualifications/related to the person(s) who will be performing the work, including how long they/you have been performing this type of work

4. Proposed quote for services: We anticipate and prefer bids on a time-and-materials basis but will consider alternative fee proposals, such as fixed-fee bids. For bids that are not a fixed fee, please address how travel time and expenses are covered by the bid, whether by including those costs in proposed hourly or daily rates, or by other means. Any proposed hourly or daily rates should include all costs of overhead, administration, labor, and standard equipment. If there are cost areas that are excluded from hourly or daily rates, please describe them. If your bid entails limitations on the scope of

services that will be covered, please specify those limitations.

5. Answers to the following questions:

    A. *Describe your interest and experience in ecological conservation and science-based public lands management, including any experience working on public lands and/or with stakeholders in northern Arizona, or on the Colorado Plateau?*
    B. *Describe your familiarity with cattle ranching and/or federal and/or state livestock grazing management on public lands.*
    C. *Please describe your approach and level of organization when collecting field data and conducting literature reviews, capacity to summarize data and complex information, and produce field reports and research summaries.*
    D. *Describe your experience with rangeland or other ecological monitoring - including percent cover, plant inventory, utilization, and soil condition assessments - and your skills related to Southwest plant species identification, particularly native grasses.*
    E. *What is your approach to planning for, collecting, and reporting on field data when maps and protocols are provided for you? Please speak to your trip planning in terms of route-planning efficiency and backcountry risk management in remote locations. Wilderness First Responder certification is preferred but not required. Contractor is solely responsible for their own safety practices and risk management while performing services.*
    F. *Describe your ability to work independently in remote and rugged locations, sometimes without cell service. Describe your ability to lift 25 pounds, ability to travel in the field at least 1 mile, and ability to open and close livestock gates.*

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The Grand Canyon Trust will evaluate bidders and proposals based on*:*

- *Overall quality, timeliness, cost, and completeness of the submitted proposal*
- *Contractor's previous experience related to the scope of work*
- *Experience with rangeland health assessments or other ecological monitoring, particularly line-intercept, percent cover, and plant species inventories*
- *General knowledge of multiple-use public lands management*
- *Plant identification skills, particularly native and non-native grasses*
- *Backcountry risk management skills, comfort with and ability to access and work in remote areas safely and independently, including in areas several hours from the nearest lodging, gas station etc. and in areas without cell service*
- *Experience with detailed data management and information synthesis, including literature review, data tabulation, analysis, and reporting*

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions related to this RFP, we can be reached at: careers@grandcanyontrust.org