

Agricultural and Applied Economics 1000 E. University Ave., Dept. 3354 Laramie, Wyoming 82071

Graduate Research Assistantship (MS) in Water Resource Economics

Description The Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics (AGEC) at the University of Wyoming is currently seeking a highly qualified graduate research assistant (MS level) to contribute to analysis on the economic impacts of reductions in water availability and use in the Wyoming portion of the Colorado River Basin. This analysis will be the subject of the student's thesis research and could involve the use of farm enterprise budgets, focus groups and/or economic optimization models to understand the response of cattle operations and/or municipal and industrial sector representatives to reduced water availability. The work will be part of ongoing efforts to understand the economic impacts that might result from potential consumptive use reductions in agriculture and other sectors of the economy under different policy scenarios and precipitation futures in the Colorado River Basin. (Policy context and related efforts are described here.) Funding for the position has been obtained through a competitive grant award from the UW Water Research Program. The successful candidate will work directly with AGEC faculty Kristi Hansen and Roger Coupal and UW Hydrologist Ginger Paige, and interact with Colorado River Basin stakeholders and the Wyoming State Engineer's Office.

Qualifications The successful applicant must hold a bachelor's degree and be accepted as a graduate student at the University of Wyoming (click here for more information on how to apply). Preference will be given to applicants with strong quantitative skills and a BS in agricultural economics, economics, or a related field.

Compensation The successful applicant will receive a full waiver of tuition and fees (including health insurance) to pursue an MS in Agricultural Economics at UW. They will be compensated with a monthly stipend (approximately \$1,370/month), as long as they perform adequately (determined via evaluation each semester) in both coursework and research as a full-time AGEC graduate student.

Application Please send the following to Dr. Kristi Hansen by email (<u>kristi.hansen@uwyo.edu</u>):

- (1) Cover letter describing your interest in the research project and any unique qualifications;
- (2) Resume indicating your scholarly, extracurricular, and work experiences;
- (3) Contact information for three professional references (indicate their position/role); and
- (4) Copy of all undergraduate transcripts (unofficial copies are acceptable) and GRE scores.

Review of applications is underway and will continue until a suitable candidate is identified. The preferred candidate will then be required to submit a full application to the University of Wyoming Admissions Office. Please contact Dr. Hansen directly for more information on the assistantship. Please contact Dr. Benjamin Rashford, Graduate Program Coordinator, for information about our graduate program.