

Small mammal and herpetology technician-Colorado

Agency Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Colorado State University

Location Colorado

Job Category Temporary/Seasonal Positions

Salary \$13-\$15/hr

Start Date 06/01/2018

Last Date to Apply 05/15/2018

Website <https://www.cnhp.colostate.edu>

Description

Summary of Position

Colorado Natural Heritage Program seeks 1 summer field technicians to conduct trapping surveys and vegetation sampling for Preble's meadow jumping mouse (PMJM), and to conduct field sampling for snakes. This work entails traveling to locations along the Front Range of Colorado. Travel to field sites include a combination of daytrips, short camping trips, and overnight hotel trips.

This position provides an excellent opportunity for zoologists eager to gain experience sampling for the federally threatened Preble's meadow jumping mouse. Additionally, this technician will coordinate the sampling for snake species throughout the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Background

CNHP has been sampling for PMJM since the mid-1990s, working with land management agencies along the Front Range of Colorado to identify habitat and describe such habitat to inform management

decisions. In 2018, CNHP will be conducting trapping for PMJM as part of an on-going mark-recapture study and as an evaluation of habitat rehabilitation. At both locations, vegetation sampling will be conducted to describe PMJM habitat. Also, as part of a biological inventory, CNHP will be looking for the smooth green snake by conducting visual searches and placing cover boards in appropriate habitats. Throughout the summer, other projects may arise that would require technician assistance.

Duties

1. Work with summer interns to conduct trapping for PMJM, and conduct vegetation sampling to adequately describe PMJM habitat.
2. Independently lay out and visit cover boards to identify the snake species that are hiding there.
3. Conduct visual surveys for select snake species.
4. Reliably locate field plots, safely and efficiently access sites, complete field forms, operate and maintain field equipment, and effectively manage collected data.
5. Enter and maintain data in electronic formats (databases, spreadsheets, GPS, GIS).
6. Thoroughly document all fieldwork using field notebooks, survey forms, maps, GPS, digital tablets, and cameras.

Qualifications

Minimum Qualifications

A bachelor's degree in wildlife management, wildlife biology, zoology, ecology, natural resources, range management, forestry, or related field. Three years of equivalent field experience may be substituted for degree.

1. Prior experience trapping small mammals;
2. Knowledge of dichotomous keys and field guides;
3. Willingness to adhere to strict trapping guidelines;
4. Willingness to travel during field season, work unusual schedules, backpack, car camp, and live in rustic conditions for extended periods in remote areas (if necessary);
5. Good physical condition and ability to work long hours in the field, travel by foot off-trail in rough terrain, and work through inclement weather;
6. Careful attention to detail in collecting data;
7. Comfort and familiarity with the use of computers;
8. Experience or familiarity with the use of GPS;

Desired Qualifications

1. Familiarity with Colorado mammals and reptiles;
2. Experience collecting vegetation and environmental data in the field;
3. Experience managing other field technicians and working in field conditions.

Reflecting departmental and institutional values, candidates are expected to have the ability to advance the Department's commitment to diversity and inclusion.

Applications will be accepted until the position has been filled or through May 15, 2018, whichever comes first.

To apply send resume, cover letter, and three references (with phone #'s), to Robert Schorr at robert.schorr@colostate.edu

References will not be contacted without prior notification of candidates.

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Contact Person Robert Schorr

Contact eMail robert.schorr@colostate.edu

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