

State Herpetologist - (180007TC)

Description

The State Herpetologist (Conservation Biologist IV) implements inventory, research and management programs to conserve the Commonwealth's endangered, threatened and special concern reptiles and amphibians, compiles and analyzes data on the distribution of the state's herpetofauna, especially its rare and endangered species, and provides technical guidance to DFW regulatory review staff implementing the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act.

Duties Include:

1. Compile and analyze data on rare reptile and amphibian populations and habitats, and apply these data to maintaining and updating the state's official rare species list; review and evaluate individual species for appropriateness of inclusion on or deletion from the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA) list; research taxonomy as necessary; develop listing criteria; screen rare reptile and amphibian species observation records for accuracy and completeness before acceptance into NHESP databases. Prepare species habitat maps for reptile and amphibian species.
2. Plan, supervise, and/or conduct field surveys and scientific investigations of populations of endangered, threatened and special concern reptile and amphibian species; oversee and administer short-term reptile and amphibian research and inventory projects to be contracted-out; hire and supervise seasonal staff to assist in biological surveys and research, as needed; analyze conservation research and inventory results and prepare studies, technical reports and scientific papers for publication.
3. Develop, implement, and coordinate long range habitat and population management programs for endangered reptiles and amphibians, and work with partners to research, manage, and protect important habitat areas.
4. Apply knowledge of the abundance, distribution, ecology, and management needs of rare reptiles and amphibians through participation in regulatory reviews, and protection and ecological restoration planning, and in other DFW/NHESP projects.
5. Develop and maintain professional relationships with habitat land managers, the environmental and scientific communities; develop and implement conservation partnerships to advance reptile and amphibian conservation; interact professionally with biologists at the state, regional, and national level; coordinate efforts with the DFW Fisheries & Wildlife Sections.
6. Prepare and deliver presentations, develop informational material, and conduct other targeted education and outreach to increase awareness of the status and conservation needs of the biodiversity of the Commonwealth; work with DFW/NHESP administrators to seek and obtain funding and/or other material support for reptile and amphibian conservation.
7. Perform other duties as assigned.

Qualifications Required at Hire:

1. Extensive knowledge of the principles and practices of herpetology and biological conservation.
2. Thorough knowledge of the identification, ecology, and habitat requirements of a component of the herpetofauna of the northeastern U.S. (especially rare species) and some knowledge of the geography and ecoregions of Massachusetts.
3. Demonstrated experience with GIS technology and ability to read topographic maps.
4. Experience with or knowledge of NatureServe/Natural Heritage methodology.
5. Ability to speak and write clearly and effectively.
6. Ability to deal effectively with a wide variety of people.

7. Willingness to travel extensively throughout the state and to work in the field under adverse weather conditions.

Preferred Qualification: M.S. or Ph.D. degree in Biology, Ecology, or related discipline.

Minimum Entrance Requirements:

Applicants must have at least (A) five years of full-time, or equivalent part-time, professional, paraprofessional or technical experience in work involving the protection, resource protection, regulatory procedures preservation and/or management of endangered and protected species, of which (B) at least three years must have been in a professional capacity and of which (C) at least two years must have been in a supervisory capacity, or (D) any equivalent combination of the required experience and the substitutions below.

Substitutions:

I. A Bachelors degree with a major in zoology, botany, ornithology or herpetology, may be substituted for a maximum of two years of the required (A) experience on the basis of two years of education for one year of experience.*

II. A Graduate degree with a major in zoology, botany, ornithology, or herpetology, may be substituted for one year of the required (A) experience on the basis of two years of education for one year of experience.*

*Education toward such a degree will be prorated on the basis of the proportion of the requirements actually completed.

Special Requirements:

Based on assignment, possession of a current and valid Massachusetts Class D Motor Vehicle Operator's license, or equivalent license from the state in which you reside, may be required.

Primary Location: Westborough, MA

Schedule: Full-time

Shift: Day

Salary: \$63,535.42 - 92,375.40 Yearly

To view the complete job description and qualifications in detail, please see

<https://massanf.taleo.net/careersection/ex/jobdetail.ftl?job=180007TC>.

You can apply for this position by logging into MassCareers or through the following portal:

<https://www.mass.gov/find-your-future-commonwealth-job>.

A cover letter and resume must be submitted as part of the application process and attached "as relevant" to the requisition.

First consideration will be given to those applicants that apply within the first 14 days (by 12/4/2018).