

Herpetology Field Technicians in Michigan

We are seeking 2-4 field technicians to assist with herpetological research over the summer of 2018, approximately from early May – August. Applicants will need to be comfortable working long hours alone and as part of a cohesive research team around venomous snakes and in habitats that can be extremely hot, humid, buggy, and densely vegetated (e.g. wetlands). Excellent communication skills are a must, as this research takes place on a military base (sometimes on or near firing ranges) and requires collaborating closely with the research team and various military personnel. Applicants preferably have a four-year degree from an accredited college or university (biology, wildlife management, ecology, or related field), and a valid driver's license.

A) Eastern Massasauga Radio-tracking

Technicians will assist with capturing and radio-tracking federally threatened eastern massasaugas (*Sistrurus catenatus*) at a military base in northern Michigan for a study assessing the efficacy of soft - release translocation as a conservation management technique for relocating massasaugas. Technicians will assist with routine radio-tracking, searching for new massasaugas, entering and organizing data, sterilizing equipment, and so on. Previous experience radio-tracking, surveying for cryptic wildlife, and working with venomous snakes or other dangerous wildlife is preferred but not required.

B) Wood and Blanding's Turtle Radio-tracking

Technicians will assist with capturing and radio-tracking Blanding's turtles (*Emydoidea blandingii*) and wood turtles (*Glyptemys insculpta*) in the same area in northern Michigan as the study above. The goals of the study are to identify locations used by these species through surveying and telemetry, and to endeavor to characterize that habitat across the local landscape. Technicians will assist with routine radio-tracking, searching for new turtles, entering and organizing data, sterilizing equipment, and so on. Previous experience radio-tracking and surveying for turtles is preferred but not required.

Logistics

Pay will be \$10-12/hour for 40 hours/week. Shared housing will be provided to all technicians at no cost at a field station that is nearby the study site (~20- minute drive). There is no air conditioning, and the internet and cell service are limited at the field house, but these amenities are available in town and at the military base. That said, the field site is in a beautiful area on a riverfront and is near several state parks. A personal vehicle for work-related travel is required (4WD or AWD recommended but not required).

Contact Information

Qualified applicants should email a letter of interest, a resume/CV that describes academic background and relevant experience, and the names and contact information for at least three references. This information should be submitted to either Dr. Bruce Kingsbury at

bruce.kingsbury@ipfw.edu if interested in the turtle project or Jillian Josimovich at josijm01@ipfw.edu if interested in the snake project. Please put "Field Technician – Turtles" or "Field Technician – Snakes" in the subject line to help us sort incoming messages. If you are interested in both positions, please submit your application to both persons, but indicate to us your first choice and indicate in your email that you would like to be considered for both. Applications will be accepted until February 15th, but review of applications will begin late January and positions filled as soon as possible thereafter.