

## POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

**Job Classification:** Hourly Assistant – 40 hours per week

**Position:** Herpetological Technician

**Employer:** Illinois Natural History Survey, a Division of the Prairie Research Institute of the University of Illinois, Champaign, Illinois

### JOB DESCRIPTION

A technician is sought to collect demographic data on amphibians collected from drift fence arrays surrounding vernal wetlands in central Illinois and reptiles from cover board arrays in old field and prairie habitats in central and northern Illinois. The technician will work independently and with others to collect data on amphibian and reptile demographics (identify, count, weigh, mark, and measure species). Records data manually and electronically into a database using a tablet. Prepares, under supervision, data summaries and quarterly reports. The technician will be responsible for decontamination of sampling equipment and boots, maintenance of equipment and fences, data entry, data management, tissue collection, amphibian and reptile marking and operate a variety of hand tools, electronics, and mechanical equipment such as 4WD vehicles and Utility Terrain Vehicles.

Work is performed in prairie and wooded environments where there is exposure to extremes of weather and temperature. The work requires moderate to strenuous physical exertion such as long periods of standing, walking over rough, uneven, rocky, steep, and muddy surfaces; bending, crouching, stretching, lifting, and carrying up to 40 lbs. Long hours in the field should be expected and some work on weekends may be required. Duration of the season will be from mid-January through August 2019.

### QUALIFICATIONS

Must have Bachelor's Degree in Ecology, Wildlife, Natural Resources, or related field and have knowledge and experience in amphibian and reptile identification by sight (adults, juveniles, larvae, and egg masses). Previous experience conducting data intensive field research is mandatory. Meticulous data collection and the ability to work effectively and efficiently is expected. The applicant must be able to work independently and as part of a team. The candidate must be physically able to hike to sites, safely operate an UTV, and work outside under adverse field conditions including, but not limited to, biting insects, rain, sleet, snow, heat, humidity, and uneven terrain while carrying up to 40 lbs. of field equipment. Candidate must have a valid driver's license. Ability to work with computer and tablet applications including Microsoft Office is required, experience with File Maker Pro preferred.

**Salary:** \$12.50 / hour

**Available:** On or before January 21, 2019 through August 2019

**Application:** For full consideration, applications should be received by **12/14/19**. **Electronic applications required.** To apply, please email cover letter, curriculum vitae and contact information for three references in one pdf file to: [dreslik@illinois.edu](mailto:dreslik@illinois.edu) - **(Reference "Dreslik-HerpTech" in subject line).**

Direct technical questions to Michael Dreslik at [dreslik@illinois.edu](mailto:dreslik@illinois.edu)