

Summer Field Assistants for Study of Endangered Amphibians – Sierra Nevada, California

The Mountain Lakes Research Group (based at the University of California Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Laboratory) will be hiring one assistant for the Summer 2019 field season. Successful applicants will work in the Sierra Nevada mountains as part of a team restoring populations of the endangered mountain yellow-legged frog in the presence of the amphibian chytrid fungus, a widespread amphibian pathogen. During the summer we will be conducting frog translocations, reintroductions of captive-reared frogs, capture-mark-recapture surveys to assess the status of frog populations established via translocation/reintroduction in previous years, visual encounter surveys, and the collection of skin swabs from frog populations to quantify frog-pathogen dynamics. The research will take place primarily at remote backcountry locations in Yosemite and Kings Canyon National Parks, and national forest wilderness areas. This research is part of a multi-year project funded by several federal and state agencies and private foundations.



To be considered for this position, you MUST have extensive backpacking experience at high elevations (>10,000'; this is not negotiable), be able to navigate across difficult trail-less terrain, be comfortable working alone in remote areas for hours at a time, and have a passion for conducting field research. In addition, candidates should also have experience capturing and handling amphibians, including inserting PIT tags. The ideal candidate will have extensive backpacking experience in mountain environments, demonstrated leadership skills, experience working both as part of a group and individually, and previous experience conducting field research in remote locations and on amphibians. Previous employees have typically been advanced undergraduates pursuing degrees in ecology or wildlife biology, or those having finished undergraduate or master's degrees in these fields.

Assistants will be paid \$18-20/hour depending on experience. Housing is provided at the Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Laboratory near the resort town of Mammoth Lakes, California. When in the backcountry (which will be most of the time), assistants are also provided \$30 per diem to cover food expenses and replacement of personal backpacking gear, and are reimbursed for use of a personal vehicle. The field season is expected to run from approximately mid-June to mid-September.

The application period is February 1-15, 2019. Applications should include (1) a cover letter that details your backpacking and research experience (including with amphibians) and states why you are interested in the position and would be an asset to the project, (2) a resume that includes contact information (email addresses and phone numbers) for three references who are familiar with your research and/or backpacking experience, and (3) transcripts from undergraduate and graduate (if applicable) institutions. Unofficial copies of transcripts are acceptable. To apply, email applications (formatted as a single PDF document) to Ericka Hegeman (snarlapplications@gmail.com) by February

15. Hiring will be completed by late February. Information about the Mountain Lakes Research Group, including scientific publications, is available at <http://mountainlakesresearch.com>.