

## Flatwoods Salamander Technician(s) – Florida

**Salary:** \$15/hr, 40 hrs/week

**Employment Period:** Oct 1, 2021-May 19, 2022

**Last Date to Apply:** Aug 6, 2021

### **Description and Duties:**

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWC) Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI) is hiring two seasonal (OPS) field technicians to assist with ongoing projects focusing on the conservation of the Federally Threatened Frosted Flatwoods Salamander (*Ambystoma cingulatum*) in the Apalachicola National Forest (Liberty County, FL). Two positions will start Oct 1, 2021 and end May 19, 2022. Selected applicants will be assisting FWC biologists with constructing and monitoring drift fences, headstarting larvae, and conducting larval dipnet surveys. Routine responsibilities will include the maintenance of aquatic "cattle tank" mesocosms housing larval salamanders. This includes monitoring water quality variables, raising and collecting invertebrate prey, and conducting nighttime larval welfare checks. Field duties will include daily drift fence checks and maintenance, salamander egg searches, nocturnal larval searches, aquatic trapping, and dipnet surveys. Additional field duties may include assisting with wetland habitat restoration and prescribed burning. Field duties necessitate occasional weekend work. Non-field duties include collecting and entering data into Excel or MS Access Databases.

### **Qualifications:**

Minimum Qualifications: Two years of post high school experience in wildlife, fisheries, environmental, ecological or related agriculture or construction. Vocational training or college, as described below, may substitute on a year-for-year basis for the required experience, or

An associate of science degree from an accredited college in the field of wildlife, fisheries, environmental, ecological or agriculture studies and one year of wildlife, fisheries, environmental, ecological or related agricultural or construction experience, or

An associate of arts or science degree from an accredited college and two years of wildlife, fisheries, environmental or related agricultural or construction experience, or

Sixty (60) semester hours at an accredited college or university which include 21 semester hours in wildlife, fisheries, environmental, ecological, biological or agricultural studies may substitute for the required college.

Preferred Qualifications: Bachelor's degree or above in biology, ecology, or related field. At least one year of field experience working with reptiles, amphibians, or other aquatic wildlife. Familiarity with mark-recapture techniques. Preferred applicants should be comfortable working outside for long periods during non-standard hours and in inclement conditions. They should be in good physical condition and comfortable walking long distances through thick vegetation or wading in shallow water. They should be familiar with the identification, collection, and handling of reptiles and amphibians, preferably in the southeastern US. Familiarity with 4x4 operation and GPS navigation is preferred. Applicants should be familiar with field data collection and database entry (i.e. Microsoft Excel). Able to maintain good working relationships with team members. A valid US driver's license is required.

WHAT IS OPS EMPLOYMENT? Other Personal Services (OPS) temporary employer/employee relationship used solely for accomplishing short term or intermittent tasks. OPS employees do not fill established positions and may not be assigned the duties of any vacant authorized position. OPS employees are at-will employees and are subject to actions such as pay changes, changes to work assignment and terminations at the pleasure of the agency head or designee.

WHAT BENEFITS ARE APPLICABLE TO OPS EMPLOYEES?

- State of Florida 401(a) FICA Alternative Plan - mandatory
- Workers' Compensation - mandatory
- Reemployment Assistance (Unemployment Compensation) - mandatory
- Participation in state group insurance (must meet eligibility requirements. Consult with People First or the servicing Human Resource Office for details.)
- Deferred Compensation - voluntary
- Employee Assistance Program – voluntary

WHAT BENEFITS ARE NOT APPLICABLE TO OPS EMPLOYEES?

- Any form of paid leave
- Paid holidays
- Participation in the Florida Retirement System
- Reinstatement rights or retention rights

The State of Florida is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Affirmative Action Employer, and does not tolerate discrimination or violence in the workplace. Candidates requiring a reasonable accommodation, as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, must notify the agency hiring authority and/or People First Service Center (1-866-663-4735). Notification to the hiring authority must be made in advance to allow sufficient time to provide the accommodation. The State of Florida supports a Drug-Free workplace. All employees are subject to reasonable suspicion drug testing in accordance with Section 112.0455, F.S., Drug-Free Workplace Act.

**HOW TO APPLY:**

Please submit a single document (MS word or PDF) containing: 1) Cover letter 2) Resume/CV 3) Minimum of 2 professional references. The one-page cover letter should explain project-relevant qualifications and experience. Applications and inquiries should be sent to Pierson Hill (Pierson.Hill@myfwc.com) with the subject line "Salamander Technician". Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

**Website:**

<https://myfwc.com/research/wildlife/amphibians-reptiles/salamanders/flatwoods-salamanders/headstarting/>