

Position: Biological Science Technicians (Wildlife – Snakes)

Agency: USGS Western Ecological Research Center

Location: Dixon, California

Description: The USGS Western Ecological Research Center is seeking to fill multiple positions for Biological Science Technicians to conduct giant gartersnake (*Thamnophis gigas*) field studies at several sites in the Sacramento Valley, California.

Primary duties include aquatic trapping to capture giant gartersnakes for demographic and occupancy studies along with habitat and vegetation surveys, some husbandry of captive snakes for radio telemetry surgical implantation, and some radio telemetry tracking. Summer weather in the Sacramento Valley is sunny and hot, with average daytime temperatures in the 90s F with many days well over 100 F. Due to the nature of this work being in close proximity to agricultural bee boxes, we are unable to consider anyone with known bee allergies - unless you have sought medical attention and carry an emergency medication such as an EpiPen®. Technicians will meet at the Dixon office each day, but field work is conducted across the Sacramento Valley on private and NGO properties. Must be comfortable driving large trucks long distances as some of our field sites are 2 hours away, one way. Housing is not provided. We anticipate the project running from April – August.

Qualifications: B.S. degree in biology, wildlife management, or a related field is required. Prior field research experience preferred. Valid driver's license required. Experience driving large 4x4 trucks on dirt roads preferred. Successful applicants must possess the ability to hike in waders while carrying equipment and kayak long distances, often in hot or otherwise inclement weather. Hours can be irregular and long. Must be willing to work weekends. These positions are physically demanding. Must be able to record and maintain data in field notebooks and electronic databases (iPhone). Ability to work independently and as part of a team while maintaining a positive attitude and good communication with the field supervisor is essential.

As required by Executive Order 14043, Federal employees are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 regardless of the employee's duty location or work arrangement (e.g., telework, remote work, etc.), subject to such exceptions as required by law. If selected, you will be required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and submit documentation of vaccination by November 22, 2021 or before your entry on duty date with the USGS, if after November 22. DOI will provide additional information regarding what information or documentation will be needed and how you can request of USGS a legally required exception from this requirement.

Due to COVID-19, the USGS is currently in an expanded telework posture. If selected, you may be expected to temporarily telework, even if your home is located outside the local commuting area. Once employees are permitted to return to the office, you will be expected to report to the duty station listed on this announcement in accordance with the Department's reentry procedures provided by your Servicing Human Resources Office.

At that time, you may be eligible to request to continue to telework one or more days per pay period depending upon the terms of the Department of the Interior's telework policy.

Please send a cover letter, resume, and contact information for 3 references *in a single PDF document* saved with your last name as the file name (example: "Jordan") to ajordan@usgs.gov with "Giant Gartersnake Technician" in the subject line. Attention to following instructions will be considered.

Salary: GG-05, ~\$20.61/hour
Last Date to Apply: Jan 10, 2022
Contact: Anna Jordan, ajordan@usgs.gov