

Title: Amphibian Field Technician (2-3 positions available)

Agency: Virginia Tech

Location: Eglin Air Force Base, Niceville, FL

Job Description:

Candidates will work with Virginia Tech to assist with research, monitoring, and management of reticulated flatwoods salamander and other wildlife on Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. Position will require working a combination of days/nights in potentially adverse conditions (high heat, cold rain, wind). Responsibilities will include monitoring drift fences and conducting dipnet surveys for flatwoods salamanders, habitat restoration work in federally endangered reticulated flatwoods salamander breeding ponds, rearing flatwoods salamander larvae in cattle tanks, collecting habitat measurements, conducting salamander burrow surveys, and data entry/proofing. Candidate must be able to walk several miles in sun in uneven terrain while carrying up to 30 pounds of equipment, be able to work in standing water using hip waders, be able to haul large, awkward brush and cut woody debris weighing up to 50 lbs for short distances out of wetland basins for up to 8 hrs/day, be able to follow complex protocols while wet, cold, tired, and being bitten by mosquitoes at night. Work will begin in August or September 2022 and will continue into December or January, with the possibility of extension into May 2023. There is a possibility of additional hiring later in the season to extend through the summer and into fall 2023.

Application Instructions: Please send a cover letter and resume and contact information for two references (you can follow up with names and contact of two references later if not available immediately) to michaelholden@vt.edu with AMPHIBIAN TECH EGLIN in the subject line of the email. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled but those received before 9 August 2022 will receive priority review. (Questions can be directed to kcjones7@vt.edu or cahaas@vt.edu if needed, but please copy Michael Holden on all correspondence.) Virginia Tech is an EO/AA EMPLOYER COMMITTED TO DIVERSITY.

Qualifications:

Required Qualifications

Previous natural resource field experience, valid driver's license; excellent organization and communication skills; demonstrated ability to work independently and collaboratively; successful applicants will be adaptable, detail-oriented, enthusiastic, comfortable working on an active military base, comfortable working alone and with others at night, and able to work harmoniously with others.

Preferred Qualifications

B.S. in Wildlife Science or related field; previous experience working with amphibians and reptiles, especially ambystomatid salamanders, experience measuring vegetation, experience working on a military installation, experience operating 4WD vehicles in challenging terrain, experience handling federally threatened or endangered species, experience running drift fences, and experience marking amphibians using VIE and/or PIT tags.

Salary: \$12-\$14/hr plus housing