



Wildlife Diversity Western Reptile Technician

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Wildlife Diversity Program

Job Description

The successful applicant's primary responsibility will be to conduct inventory and monitoring surveys for multiple reptile species throughout Western NC, particularly *Species of Greatest Conservation Need* (SGCN) identified in the *North Carolina Wildlife Action Plan* (2015). The technician will work alone or with others on bog turtle conservation projects (e.g., mark-recapture population studies, camera trapping, nest protection, telemetry), riverine turtle surveys (e.g., basking, trapping), a box turtle community science project, rattlesnake habitat assessments and data collection, reptile inventories, habitat management and restoration efforts, and other reptile SGCN field activities as needed. The technician will also be responsible for data entry, data analysis, mapping, equipment maintenance, literature review, and miscellaneous tasks in support of project objectives. The technician will occasionally supervise volunteers and assist other regional biologists with fieldwork for other wildlife taxa (e.g., amphibians, birds, bats, and small mammals).

Technicians must be able to work independently and with others and be comfortable working in remote, strenuous field locations, sometimes in harsh conditions or inclement weather (e.g., work will include swimming in swift rivers, hiking up steep rocky hillsides, walking in deep mud). Travel to various field locations throughout the western region, and some long days and overnight stays, will be required. A vehicle and all necessary equipment will be provided.

Location

The expected duty station will be in or near Asheville, NC, but other nearby locations may be considered. Housing is not provided. Office work will be conducted in a home office.

Compensation

The pay rate range is \$16 - \$21/hr., commensurate with education and experience. This position is for 11 months (January 22–December 13, 2024), with the possibility of being re-hired for the following year. Work weeks typically average 40 hours Monday–Friday; however, the applicant should expect this schedule to vary with some long hours and weekend work required, especially during the busiest field months. The newly hired temporary employee will be contacted by HR to determine if eligible for insurance under the Affordable Care Act.

Qualifications

An Associate's degree in Wildlife Biology or related field is required; a Bachelor's degree or higher is preferred. Desired qualifications include the following: Prior experience working with turtles and snakes; the ability to correctly identify western North Carolina reptiles; familiarity with western North Carolina geography and ecology; reptile survey and data collection experience using a variety of field methods; experience using a GPS unit for navigation and data collection; proficiency with Microsoft Office

(including Microsoft Access), ArcMap, and smart phone mapping applications; ability to hike long distances on and off trail; ability to carry and/or lift heavy loads (at least 50 lbs.).

Good organizational skills, attention to detail, excellent verbal and written communication skills, and personal motivation are a must. The successful applicant must be a team player, mature, hardworking, trustworthy, and respectful of others.

Other desired skills include the ability to safely operate a chainsaw and other power tools, and to safely drive a 4WD truck on rough gravel roads and off-road situations.

Applications

Email a cover letter, C.V., contact information for 3 references, and a completed PD-107 application for employment for the State of North Carolina (<https://oshr.nc.gov/documents/nc-state-government-paper-application-employment-pd-107>) to:

Gabrielle Graeter
Conservation Biologist/Herpetologist
Email: gabrielle.graeter@ncwildlife.org

Deadline

Applications must be received by **10:00am on Monday, November 27, 2023**. Selected interviews will occur approximately 1-2 weeks later.