Environmental Project Specialist

Full-time Temporary 1 year Position Announcement

Overview: Integral Ecology Research Center (IERC) is seeking a passionate, motivated, and adaptable Environmental Project Specialist to join our dynamic team! As an Environmental Project Specialist, successful applicants will have the unique opportunity to work alongside our interdisciplinary science team and develop their science skills while supporting multiple research and active conservation projects. Applicants will primarily focus on IERC’s exciting Cannabis and Environmental Science Program projects, which involve cutting-edge data collection and implementation techniques in remote forest locations throughout California.

Specialists will have the chance to contribute to a variety of active conservation projects including cannabis site reclamation projects and novel studies on wildlife including fishers and barred owls, vegetation, and abiotic factors such as soil and water. They will gain hands-on experience in both field and office aspects of project and research implementation, including data management and project reporting duties. With guidance and training from our experienced team, successful applicants will learn how to use novel data collection and implementation methods to advance our understanding of environmental processes. Successful candidates will demonstrate high scientific development potential, providing an opportunity for growth in both scientific understanding and project implementation. Proficiency in GIS and strong writing skills are essential prerequisites for success in this role.

Join us at IERC and make a meaningful impact on the conservation and management of wildlife species and their communities, while gaining valuable experience in a dynamic and exciting field!

Organization: IERC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit scientific organization dedicated to enhancing scientific knowledge, advancing the management and conservation of wildlife species and their communities, and improving overall ecosystem health and conservation through ecological research. IERC works collaboratively with a range of local, state, federal, and tribal partners to provide the most current and scientifically accurate ecological information that will help wildlife managers, educators, researchers, and politicians implement well-informed conservation measures for wildlife species and promote biological diversity world-wide. Click here to see a selection of IERC’s research publications.

Location: Blue Lake, CA
Work Schedule: 35 – 40+ hours per week, 4/10 schedule; work in excess of 40 hrs. per week may be required to complete project deadlines, occasionally including weekend shifts.
Start Date: March 15 – 31, 2024
Duration: One year from hire date (potential contract extension depending on funding and performance)
Salary: $21.00 to $23.00/ hour, dependent on qualifications
Benefits: Group health insurance program after 90 days of employment; paid holidays; paid time off after 6 months
Deadline to Apply: March 03, 2024: 2359hrs PDT

IERC is an equal opportunity employer. We strive to create a working environment that includes and respects cultural, racial, ethnic, sexual orientation and gender identity diversity.
Tasks include:
Field duties (50 - 60% time)
- Conduct data collection at remote field sites, including soil, water, and vegetation sampling
- Conduct documentation, reclamation, and restoration tasks on various habitat projects, including illegal cannabis cultivation sites on public and private lands
- Assist with various wildlife surveys such as remote camera surveys, carnivore tracking, stream and river surveys for amphibians and reptiles and eDNA collection, other direct and indirect monitoring of wildlife

Office duties (40 - 50% time)
- Assist with data entry, management, and analysis using multiple software packages (e.g. ArcPro Survey123, Access/Excel)
- Coordinate specific aspects of environmental projects under supervision of Program Manager
- Assist with writing and literature searches for reports, publications, and grant proposals
- Communicate effectively with IERC staff & work cooperatively with external collaborators in other disciplines

Required Qualifications:
- Bachelor’s degree in Biology, Wildlife, Natural Resources, Environmental Science, or similar discipline
- A minimum of one season of field experience
- Proficiency with Geographic Information Systems software (ArcGIS or ArcPro, Google Earth)
- Proficiency with MS Office Suite (Excel, Word, Access, PowerPoint), Office365
- Clean driving record and ability to pass a background security clearance and drug test
- Ability to proficiently drive vehicles in 4-wheel drive conditions
- Ability to perform strenuous physical activity, hike long distances carrying 40 lbs., and work extended hours in remote conditions
- Ability to travel throughout California, Nevada, and Oregon and camp or stay at project locations for up to eight nights at a time
- Willingness and ability to work effectively and collaboratively with law enforcement and other outside partners
- Willingness to obtain and utilize HAZWOPER 40-hour certification
- Willingness to work under and travel within or under helicopters

Preferred Qualifications:
- Proven ability to proficiently operate a chainsaw, or chainsaw certification
- ATV certification

To apply, please submit 1) current resume or CV, 2) a cover letter, not to exceed 1-page synthesizing your experience and qualifications that have prepared you for this position, and 3) names and contact information for two recent references who can confirm your experience, skills, and abilities. Current DMV driving records must be furnished at the time of interview.

Submit application materials to imedel@iercecology.org no later than March 03, 2024 @2359hrs PDT. For additional information, e-mail or call (707) 668-4030.