

Position Announcement: Lead Wildlife Field Technician – Grizzly bear DNA hair snag tech (#24_03); University of Montana / US Fish and Wildlife Service; Cabinet-Yaak & Selkirk Mountains Grizzly Bear Study, Libby, MT Closing Date: January 29, 2024

Position: We are taking applications for lead technician positions for **13 May** through the **end of September** conducting hair snagging for grizzly bears in northwest Montana and north Idaho. Employment is by the University of Montana but supervised by US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Duties: Primary tasks include: set-up, checking, and collecting hair from rub trees for DNA analysis, set-up and maintenance of barb wire corral hair collection sites (DNA) and remote cameras, recording collected data on forms and in a computer database, and other duties as assigned. Position will provide day-to-day supervision of an assistant. Applicant ***must expect and be willing*** to hike and work in grizzly bear habitat. This position will require the employee to be capable of driving pick-up trucks with automatic and/or manual transmissions. Experience pulling trailers on state highways and forest service logging roads will be beneficial. Additional tasks may include assisting with public information and education regarding bears and this study, minor equipment maintenance, and data manipulation. Applicant must write legibly, keep accurate records for biological data collection, organize samples, and perform data entry.

Qualifications: Applicant must be in good physical condition with ability to hike 5-10 miles per day for several consecutive days often in poor weather conditions and carry a 20-30 pound backpack in rugged terrain. Applicant must have ability to work with minimal supervision, completing fieldwork tasks in grizzly bear habitat. Valid state driver's license required. License must be presented to supervisor for inspection on first day of work. Applicant must be experienced and proficient at operating a four-wheel drive truck on gravel and dirt roads. **International applicants must acquire a student or work visa prior to employment.**

Experience: The following work experiences are preferred but not required. Performing fieldwork in grizzly bear habitat; leading a field team and working with minimal daily supervision; driving on gravel or dirt logging roads; towing and backing up a trailer with a pick-up truck; operation and maintenance of a chainsaw; operation of 2-way radio communications, use of a satellite communication device (INREACH), trail camera experience, set-up and collection of hair at corral sites, computer data entry through ACCESS software, use of wildlife radio telemetry equipment; use of bear spray, and a GPS.

Terms of Appointment: 13 May through end September, 2023. Position will receive \$22.00/hour. Work schedule is 10 days on, 4 days off, but may vary. Housing provided. Successful applicant required to provide their own transportation to field, where a government vehicle will be used for work-related transportation.

Please contact us with any questions. To apply send a generous resume and cover letter with dates of availability to email or mailing address below. Please consider all other program positions for which you are qualified (24_04). If applying for more than one position, please note this in your cover letter and submit only one resume. Files should be labeled: YOUR_NAME_Coverletter24_03.pdf, YOUR_NAME_Resume24_03.pdf.

Contact: Wayne Kasworm, US Fish and Wildlife Service, 385 Fish Hatchery Road, Libby, MT 59923 406-293-4161 ext 205 Wayne_Kasworm@fws.gov