



Mt. Adams Resource Stewards

Invasive Amphibian Biological Technician

Job Description:

In partnership with Conboy Lake National Wildlife Refuge (CLNWR), Mt. Adams Resource Stewards (MARS) is seeking motivated candidates to serve as biological technicians for the Bullfrog Removal Action Team. Working together, these two organizations are achieving a mutual goal: facilitating and promoting a healthy, productive, and resilient ecosystem in the Mt. Adams region through land stewardship.

In teams of two (team will consist of 6 total technicians), the biotechs' primary focus will be to search for, identify, and remove American bullfrogs from the Glenwood Valley alongside a hunting technician partner. Bio-techs and hunting techs support each other through complementary skillsets to capture and remove bullfrogs effectively. This position is part of a dedicated and collaborative team that directly supports ecological restoration and recovery efforts of the biological program for the Oregon Spotted Frog, a federally listed Threatened species. This work is directed at removing an invasive species, the American bullfrog, which is not native to the Glenwood Valley, but was previously introduced by humans. The American bullfrog is a direct predator of, and competitor with the Oregon Spotted Frog. The work will take place on CLNWR and the surrounding areas of the Glenwood Valley in Klickitat County, Washington.

CLNWR is located near the small town of Glenwood, WA – population 500 people. Glenwood is 45 minutes from the larger towns of White Salmon, WA and Hood River, OR. It is two hours from Portland, OR. Technicians have the option of free shared housing on site at CLNWR and can expect quiet nights, incredible views of a 12,000'+ volcano, Mt. Adams, first rate access to recreational activities such as hiking, climbing, biking, hunting, and kayaking, and a first-hand look at life in a rural town.

Main duties (to include, but not limited to):

- Work with a small team on lethal control of bullfrogs, primarily at night
 - Including implementation of lethal control methods such as (but not limited to): use of firearms, use of gigs, spotlighting with hand capture, fyke nets, dip-netting, and other potential methods
 - Includes egg mass removal work and tadpole netting
- Conduct biological survey work to document bullfrog removal
- Conduct biological survey work to document Oregon spotted frog presence
- Assist with dissections, monitoring, mapping, data management, analysis, and reporting

for priority invasive animal species

- Work with community volunteers, other interns, and partner agencies

Position Requirements:

- Attend a firearm safety training upon arrival
- Experience handling/identifying animals, particularly amphibians
- Excellent track record of safety with on/off road vehicle operation
- Ability to maintain constant situational awareness and behave proactively to support a safe work environment
- Ability to collect and enter data following refuge protocols
- Ability to carry up to 50 pounds for extended periods
- Must be comfortable euthanizing bullfrogs on a frequent and repeated basis
- Ability to work in inclement weather conditions, mostly at night
- Strong navigation/orientation skills
- Flexibility to change tasks as conditions change
- Working in wetlands, wearing waders, and walking long distances at night
- Basic knowledge of GPS systems, and basic knowledge of spatial data collection methods
- Proficiency with data entry (e.g., Microsoft Excel and MS Access)
- Ability to understand and follow instructions and maintain good communication with project lead and the rest of the team
- Ability to pay attention to detail, juggle multiple responsibilities, be flexible, and maintain professionalism
- Ability to be a courteous housemate in shared housing for six months
- Must bring a positive attitude to work and support strong team-focused morale
- Must be able to swim

Knowledge/Skills/Abilities Preferred:

- Theory, principles, and techniques of natural resources conservation and wildlife habitat management
- Understanding of best practices related to firearm safety
- Bachelor's degree in a related field (Wildlife Biology, Ecology, Zoology, or similar)
- Experience with hunting, trapping, and fishing, particularly with bullfrogs or similar species
- Ability to collect and enter data following refuge protocols; good attention to details
- Skill in written/oral communication to effectively work with others to accomplish tasks
- Experience or training in geographic information systems
- Ability to safely use a multitude of hand tools and small equipment
- Current CPR certification
- Demonstrated ability to work well in a small team
- Experience driving 4x4 trucks on dirt roads and muddy conditions

Work Schedule and Conditions:

Position will begin May 6th, 2024. Position will be a full-time 40-hour work week. Work requires mainly late afternoon to late night work during the week, with potential weekend work at times. Work is mainly outdoors and work shift will typically begin two hours before dusk. Position is seasonal (approximately May-October) with the potential opportunity based on successful performance to return in future field seasons. Weather conditions are varied and may include: cold, rainy, foggy, to hot and humid. Temperatures range approximately from 35-100 °F. Work in muddy, shallow wetlands is required. Mosquito presence can be heavy at times. During the spring people with allergies can be severely affected. Work is physically demanding, including lifting and carrying up to 50 pounds. Required to use a government vehicle and possess a valid driver's license. Free shared housing on Conboy Lake National Wildlife Refuge is available.

Compensation:

Pay will start at \$16.28/hour. Bunkhouse-style housing with wifi and basic amenities provided. Opportunities for additional resume-building experiences exist on a voluntary basis.

How to Apply:

Applications should include (1) a cover letter that states why you are interested in the position and would be an asset to the project, and (2) a resume that includes education, field experience, and contact information (email addresses and phone numbers) for three references who are familiar with your research/field experience. To apply, email applications (formatted as a single PDF document) to Riley Janquart (riley@mtadamsstewards.org) and CC Robyn Reeder King (robyn_reeder@fws.gov). The application deadline is February 1st, 2024 but we will be reviewing applications on a rolling basis.

Becoming familiar with both Mt. Adams Resource Stewards and Conboy Lake National Wildlife Refuge is strongly encouraged prior to applying. Information about Mt. Adams Resource Stewards is available at <http://mtadamsstewards.org/> and information about Conboy Lake National Wildlife Refuge is available at https://www.fws.gov/refuge/conboy_lake/.



View of Mt. Adams from Conboy Lake National Wildlife Refuge
Photo courtesy US Fish & Wildlife Service