

Field/Lab Research Technician – Small Mammal Sampling, University of Florida

Details:

Application Deadline: 6/15/2024

Starting Date: 8/12/2024

Ending Date: 12/15/2024

Education Required: Bachelors

Supervisors: Kathleen Carey, M.S. Student

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation; Dr. Carolina Baruzzi, Assistant Professor of Wildlife Ecology and Management

Location: North Florida Research and Education Center near Tallahassee, FL. Field sites are in the Florida Panhandle. Accommodation at field sites will be provided.

Salary: \$17 per hour

Hours per Week: 40

Position Overview:

The [Wildlife Ecology and Land Management lab](#) of University of Florida is looking for a temporary field technician to support a research project focused on small mammal ecology in longleaf pine savanna. This work is in support of a graduate student's thesis project studying the influence small mammals have on microbial dispersal, as well as analyzing the effect of restoration on small mammal site use. The successful candidate will also have opportunities to assist with other research (e.g., vegetation surveys, greenhouse experiments) and lab (e.g., DNA extraction) projects related to wildlife habitat management and restoration.

Job Duties:

Primary responsibilities will include trapping small mammals, sampling soil, and setting camera traps.

Small mammal trapping will be conducted using Sherman traps. Processing duties involve species ID, sex, ear tagging, morphometric measurements, swabbing fur, and collecting scat samples for DNA extractions. Trapping schedule will involve 4 nights of trapping a week: setting traps ~2 hours before sunset, checking traps at



sunrise, and cleaning traps at the end of every week. The technician will also be responsible for collecting soil cores at small mammal trapping sites. Camera trap-related work will include deploying, periodically checking camera traps, and reviewing camera footage.

Required Skills and Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Science Degree in wildlife biology or a closely related natural resources field
- Valid driver's license
- Organized and accurate data recording
- Ability to follow field safety and sampling protocols
- Ability to maintain a positive attitude in adverse weather conditions and work a flexible schedule with irregular hours
- Strong ability to work independently and communicate effectively

Desired Qualifications:

- Previous experience trapping small mammals and collecting morphometric measurements
- Previous experience navigating using a GPS and driving in 4-wheel drive
- Previous experience setting up and maintaining camera traps

Benefits:

- \$17/hr, 40 hours a week
- Work vehicle provided for fieldwork
- Housing provided

To Apply:

Please send a cover letter, a current CV/resume, and contact information for 3 references as a single PDF labeled by the following format:

"Lastname_SmallMammalTechnician" via email to both: Kathleen.carey@ufl.edu and Carolina.baruzzi@ufl.edu. Please label the email subject line "Small Mammal Technician Application". Applications will be reviewed as they are received and continue until a suitable candidate is found.

Contact:

Kathleen Carey: Kathleen.carey@ufl.edu and Dr. Carolina Baruzzi: Carolina.baruzzi@ufl.edu