

Head Field Technician – Columbian ground squirrels

Department of Biology
University of Saskatchewan
Saskatoon, SK, Canada S7N 5E2



Job Description and Duties: We are looking for a head field technician to assist with, and coordinate, fieldwork on the ecology of two wild populations of Columbian ground squirrels. The head technician will supervise 4 student interns and coordinate with a PhD student and PI involved with the project for the period of Apr 10 to Aug 31, 2018. Fieldwork will involve monitoring the phenology (when animals emerge from hibernation), reproduction and survival of individuals, data entry and data verification. The two populations are separated by an approximately 1.5 hr. drive and will each be monitored by two separate teams of interns. As such, it is expected that the head technician will display strong organizational abilities, responsibility and oversight.

This is an excellent opportunity for someone with previous field experience, looking to advance their career in wildlife biology or move towards graduate school. All fieldwork is carried out in the spectacular Rocky Mountains of southwestern Alberta, Canada, home to some of the most majestic wildlife in North America. The head technician will have the opportunity to view many of these iconic species as well as interact with other researchers in the area working on a diversity of species and research projects.

Skills required: The successful candidate will have previous fieldwork experience in a similar work environment. Good organizational, multi-tasking and supervisory abilities are essential. Possession of these skills, as evidenced through previous experience supervising field crews, is desirable. Specific field skills required are: ability to trap, handle and observe wild mammals. The successful applicant will also have experience in data entry, checking and management of databases. A displayed interest in ecology, wildlife, field biology, and animal behaviour is also required. An undergraduate degree in one of these, or a related, field is required. The applicant must be able to work well with members of their own team, as well as other users of the area (i.e., other researchers, tourists).

Salary will be \$1800-2100/month, based on level of experience. Food and accommodation are provided. The successful candidate will be required to provide for their own travel to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Travel between the field station and Saskatoon is provided.

If you wish to apply for this position, please send a CV with a cover letter and contact details of three references (with e-mail address), by email to Jeff Lane (contact info below) before January 31, 2018. Please indicate in your application that you are applying for the head technician position (we are also posting for student interns). All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. Only those selected for interview will be contacted.

Contact:
Dr. Jeff Lane
Department of Biology
University of Saskatchewan
usaskcgsproject@gmail.com
www.lanelab.ca