



UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN



Head Field Technician– Bat Conservation

Position Description: We are looking for a head field technician to assist with, and help coordinate, a conservation project focusing on bats in southern and central Saskatchewan. Together with the principle investigator and a graduate student, the head technician will supervise 4-5 seasonal technicians for the period from May 1 (a May 15 start date is also possible) until Aug 31, 2023 (there is potentially the opportunity to extend beyond Aug 31 if available). The project focuses on habitat use of endangered little brown bats. Specifically, we are using passive (acoustic) and active (netting) monitoring and radio-telemetry to locate important (e.g., maternity roost) habitat. We are also investigating the influence of different agricultural practices on bats, including little browns. As a member of the project, technicians will be involved with acoustic recording, live capture of bats (in mist-nets), body composition scans, blood sampling (to assess levels of pesticide exposure), insect sampling, data entry and data verification.

This is an excellent opportunity for someone with previous field experience, looking to advance their career in wildlife biology or move towards graduate school. We are particularly interested in applicants with previous experience working with bats.

Skills Required: The successful candidate will have previous fieldwork experience, ideally with wild bats. 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 and handle wild bats and to deploy, retrieve and process acoustic recorders/data. Experience with radiotelemetry is also an asset. The successful applicant will also have experience in data entry, checking and management of databases. The fieldwork is supported by a research trailer, and past experience driving trucks and pulling trailers is thus an asset. A displayed interest in ecology, wildlife management, and/or conservation biology is also required. The applicant must be able to work well with members of their own team, as well as other individuals in the area (e.g., local communities, landowners).

Terms of Employment: Salary is \$15.09 to \$20.41/hr, depending on previous experience and qualifications. Food and accommodation while in the field is provided.

Successful candidates will need to be fully vaccinated (rabies, tetanus, COVID-19) prior to handling bats. If required, the price of the rabies vaccination will be covered, but please note that a full rabies vaccination series requires 28 days. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. Only those selected for interview will be contacted.

If you wish to apply for this post then please send a CV with a cover letter and contact details for three references (with e-mail addresses), by email to Jeff Lane (contact info below). Review of applicants will begin immediately. To ensure full consideration, please apply as soon as possible.

Contact:

Dr. Jeffrey Lane
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www.lanelab.ca