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**Research coordinator position on conservation, ecology, and physiology of wild bats in Canada.**

The Evo-Eco-Energetics research group (principle investigator: Dr. Jeffrey Lane; [www.lanelab.ca](http://www.lanelab.ca)) in the Department of Biology at the University of Saskatchewan is recruiting a full-time technician to support a province-wide research and monitoring project. The successful candidate will also work closely with co-investigators (Erin Swerdfeger and Dr. Iga Stasiak) in the Ministry of Environment (Saskatchewan)). The overall purpose is to coordinate fieldwork, data management, and partner engagement on a conservation project of endangered bats (little brown Myotis and northern Myotis) in Saskatchewan. The initial appointment is for 12 months with a strong possibility of extension, given satisfactory performance.

**Nature of Work:** The individual in this position will be responsible for coordinating a large-scale field-based project on endangered bats in Saskatchewan. Coordination with collaborators and partners will enable province-wide searches for critical and important habitat for endangered bat species in the province. Additional responsibilities for this role will be varied and include (but not be limited to): site visits to potential hibernacula in the province; land-owner meetings; communication and collaboration with partners (including government and not-for-profit agencies); interviewing, training and overseeing temporary field technicians; and associated administrative duties (e.g., financial record keeping, preparation of permits and reports). Fieldwork will include mist-netting for bats, deployment of acoustic detectors, and blood and insect sampling (to quantify pesticide exposure), as well as transport, maintenance, and oversight of the use of a mobile field energetic physiology lab. The lab is housed within a 30’ trailer and contains portable respirometry equipment (to measure metabolic rates) and quantitative magnetic resonance technology (to measure body composition). It will be used to measure these parameters in captured bats. During the field season, atypical work hours can be expected (e.g., mist-netting for bats at night and radio-tracking, acoustic detector deployment, and insect sample collection during the day).

**Typical Duties or Accountabilities:**

* Passive acoustic monitoring for bats – including: site selection and deployment of detectors, coordination with partners and land-owners in deployment, manual vetting and analysis of acoustic data and acoustic database management.
* Fieldwork (and coordination of same) on bats – including: scheduling for field crews, planning accommodations and other logistics, mist-netting, handling of live bats, deployment of the mobile laboratory, hiring, training and supervision of temporary field technicians, blood sampling, body composition analysis.
* Partner/collaborator/land-owner coordination – including: telephone, video-conferencing, email and in-person communication on logistic (e.g., seeking land-owner permission for detector deployment and mist-netting) and programmatic aspects of the study (e.g., site selection to meet project objectives).
* Administration – including: coordinating with graduate students on field research needs, report writing, submission of project reports, assistance with grant applications.
* Public/scientific communication – including: presentations to partner groups and scientific audiences, write-ups of project results for land-owners, collaborators, and the public.
* Encouraging, and participating in, a safe and respectful work environment.

**Education:** Candidates must have completed an undergraduate degree (graduate degree is preferred) in ecology, conservation biology, wildlife science or a related field. Evidence of previous field and project coordination experience is required.

**Licenses:** A valid driver’s license and good driving record is necessary, and experience with pulling trailers is an asset. An active (or willingness to acquire) first aid certification is necessary. Wilderness first aid certification is an asset. Candidates will also need to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 (prior to starting the position), as well as rabies and tetanus (prior to handling bats).

**Experience:** Evidence of previous relevant field and project coordination experience is required. Bat research is unique (e.g., nocturnal mist-netting, species ID and bat call analysis). Evidence of applicable experience is thus highly preferred.

**Skills:** Applicants must be able to work independently and to support members of a team. Excellent written and oral communication skills are required. Much of the work will be field-based and the successful candidate will thus have both the flexibility and proficiency to spend extended periods in the field. Work with the mobile lab requires the ability to tow a large (30’) trailer. Evidence of previous towing experience is an asset. Maturity, good coordination, organization and ingenuity are requirements. Skills in mist-netting, bat call vetting and analysis and species identification are considered highly desirable.

**Salary:** $17.64 - $23.86 per hour. The starting salary will be commensurate with education and experience.

**Application Procedure:** Please submit a CV, cover letter, and contact information for three references to Dr. Jeffrey Lane (Jeffrey.lane@usask.ca). Review of applications will commence on February 1, 2023 and continue until the position is filled. For full consideration, please submit application materials asap.

Thank you in advance for your interest in this position, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.