

State of Washington
 Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
 invites applications for the position of:
SCIENTIFIC TECHNICIAN 2 *02396W

careers.wa.gov
 Working for Washington State

SALARY: \$2,426.00 - \$3,135.00 Monthly

OPENING DATE: 03/11/14

CLOSING DATE: 03/20/14 11:59 PM

DESCRIPTION:



Our Mission
 To preserve, protect and perpetuate fish, wildlife and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities.

Vision
 Conservation of Washington's fish and wildlife resources and ecosystems.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is dedicated to protecting native fish and wildlife, and providing sustainable fishing, hunting, and wildlife viewing opportunities for millions of residents and visitors. Working throughout the state, WDFW's employees: field biologists, enforcement officers, land stewards, lab technicians, customer service representatives and others – manage hundreds of fish and wildlife species, maintain nearly a million acres of public wildlife lands, provide opportunities for recreational and commercial fishing, wildlife viewing and hunting, protect and restore habitat and enforce laws that protect fish and wildlife resources. Find out more about us and the important work we are a part of at www.wdfw.wa.gov.

**Scientific Technician 2
 (Part time, Nonpermanent)**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife is recruiting to fill **one (1)**, nonpermanent, part-time Scientific Technician 2 position located in the Wildlife Program, Diversity Division, Region 6. The duty station is in the Natural Resources Building, Olympia, Thurston County, with travel in the localized area.

This position will be near full-time from April 1 – mid-July, 2014, and may occur on any day of the week. From April to late May work will be on an needed basis. From late May thru mid-July, 2014, this position will be scheduled up to 30 hrs/week, primarily evenings, weekends, and daytime shifts as program needs arise. Work will begin in April and continue until projects are complete.

This position is responsible for collecting essential data used to evaluate the outcomes of species reintroductions. This position reports to the Biologist 3 responsible for Taylor's checkerspot surveys and to the Biologist 4 responsible for radio-telemetry tracking of western pond turtles. The technician assists crews working in prairies and wetlands in the South Puget lowlands, and includes work on Joint Base Lewis-McChord. The technician will conduct line transect surveys, radio-telemetry tracking and collect associated data during periods of peak work volume.

Taylor's checkerspot butterfly and western pond turtle are State-listed species associated with prairie and wetland ecosystems, respectively, in the South Puget lowlands of western Washington. They are being reintroduced at suitable sites in an effort to move toward recovery. Field surveys are conducted to assist biologists and managers in assessing persistence and population trends for Taylor's checkerspot and to locate pond turtle nests that contribute to a head-starting program. Project findings are delivered to USFWS, Department of Defense (DOD) and WDFW managers, and other conservation partners to assist in restoration and recovery assessment and planning. Findings support and direct management decisions and restoration activities with on-the-ground implications for land use activities on DOD, WDFW and other public and private lands.

DUTIES:

- Conduct surveys and monitoring for an endangered butterfly to quantify abundance and distribution following reintroduction efforts.
- Responsible for documenting adult butterfly position, abundance, behavior and substrate during multiple life stages based on established protocols.
- Record data using voice recorders, and paper forms in a precise, accurate and consistent fashion.
- Capture, handle and release adult and/or larval butterflies, conduct surveys for larval nests, and monitors larval development.
- Conduct radio-telemetry tracking of adult western pond turtles, excavation of nest chambers, placement of data loggers, restoration of nesting hill and surrounding habitat, placement of nest exclosures and field marking. Assist with capture, handling and release of turtles as needed.
- Data entry and review – transcribes data from voice recorders and field forms into standardized data bases; reviews data for accuracy, identifies and corrects errors and inconsistencies, formats data and conducts statistical analyses. Summarizes findings in writing under the supervision of permanent agency biologists for incorporation into professional reports.
- Collects, imports and manages field data using GIS technology.
- Assist with layout of sampling grids and release sites in the field using GPS technology.
- Responsible for care and maintenance of telemetry equipment, binoculars, scopes, tripods, electronic data loggers.
- This position may be extended to assist with other duties as assigned, such as trapping and/or surveys for Mazama pocket gopher that cannot be completed by existing staff. These activities will be of secondary importance and may occur as time and funds are made available.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Knowledge of: principles and procedures of biological research and management; standard laboratory and field methods; statistical techniques; population measurement techniques;
- Ability to sit, stand or walk for prolonged periods while observing and interpreting behaviors of butterflies or other wildlife species.
- Ability to visually discriminate when identifying and distinguishing biological and physical characteristics of insects, especially butterflies;
- Ability to estimate distances to animals visually with a high degree of accuracy (nearest 10 cm).
- Ability to search for and identify south Puget Sound prairie butterflies by sight in the field.
- Knowledge of radio telemetry theory and techniques.
- Document, interpret and communicate wildlife species/habitat information in a detailed manner.
- Think critically in collecting, recording, compiling, and summarizing data.
- Communicate effectively verbally and in writing.
- Use standard laboratory and field equipment.
- Follow directions, show initiative, and work efficiently without supervision.
- Proficiency in using Microsoft Office (especially MS Word and Excel) software.
- Knowledge of and experience using GPS technology.
- Must be reliable, punctual and demonstrate good scientific ethics and integrity and demonstrate a flexible and creative approach to problem-solving in the field.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team to complete all tasks to satisfaction, and show a willingness to perform routine and repetitive work without sacrificing performance.
- Level of physical fitness necessary to walk at least three miles off trail with up to 40 lbs.
- Navigate in unfamiliar and undeveloped areas and in adverse weather conditions.
- Ability to operate a variety of small hand and power tools.
- Willingness to apply pesticides under direct supervision of others.
- Capable of working 8-10 hours under all weather conditions.
- Ability to drive a 4X4 vehicle.

- A valid Driver's License is required for this position.

Preferred

- Knowledge of butterfly biology, ecology and behavior. Knowledge of principles and procedures of biological research and management; standard laboratory and field methods; basic field survey techniques.
- Bachelor's degree in wildlife biology or ecology, zoology, or environmental science.
- Two field seasons (minimum of 1 month each year) conducting surveys and collecting behavioral observations of butterflies.
- Experience searching for and identifying south Puget Sound prairie butterflies by sight in the field.
- Experience to systematically conduct repeated surveys for focal species and maintaining detailed documentation.
- Experience and ability to conduct searches for insect larvae.
- Radio-telemetry tracking experience.
- Experience working independently in remote locations.
- Experience identifying common South Puget Sound prairie plants.
- Identify and estimate cover of plant species or vegetation groups using ocular estimates or frequencies with a high degree of accuracy.
- Experience conducting grassland vegetation surveys.
- Experience with trapping and handling of pocket gophers including applying PIT-tags.
- Capable of sustained digging with hand tools in hard, rocky substrate for 6 hours per day.
- Experience with trapping small wild mammals or birds.
- Experience with direct handling of wild small mammals or birds, including applying identification tags.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: WORKING CONDITIONS

The successful candidate must be willing and able to:

- Work in all weather conditions including extreme heat, rain and sometimes over difficult terrain and surfaces for up to 30% of the time.
- Work outside of the regular 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday work hours including weekends and occasional holidays.
- Work may be performed independently or as part of a team; work may be routine and at times tedious, or highly varied. Field work occurs in wetland and prairie environments with uneven walking surfaces in the south Puget lowlands, which may require walking through water wearing chest-waders. Some sites on Joint Base Lewis-McChord may contain unexploded ordnance (artillery shells); work on these sites requires special training and safety equipment (flak jacket and helmet), which can weigh up to 40 lbs, in addition to personal field equipment (binoculars and data recorders). Field work hours may be highly variable and are somewhat dependent on weather conditions and other scheduling issues.
- Work on hazardous terrain which may contain unexploded ordnance.
- Work in wetlands that may require the use of chest waders while safely and securely operating electronic equipment.
- Carry equipment weighing up to 40 pounds over uneven terrain.
- Daily travel to field sites located within 50 miles of assigned work location. Occasional regional travel may be required to collect or distribute animals to captive-rearing facilities
- Safely operate motor vehicles.

How to Apply:

To apply for this position you MUST complete your profile at www.careers.wa.gov and attach the following to your profile before completing the online application:

- A cover letter describing how you meet the qualification of this position (generic cover letters will not be accepted)
- A current resume (please make it succinct)
- Three professional references (personal references do not count as professional references)

Please note: *Failure to follow the above application instructions will lead to disqualification. E-mailed documents will not be accepted in lieu of attaching your documents to the online profile.*

Upon submission of your online application, you will immediately receive a confirming e-mail. You will then be notified via e-mail of your status during the process. In addition to the e-mail notifications, you can check the status of your application at any time by visiting your online profile at www.careers.wa.gov. Due to the high volume of applications that we receive, we ask your understanding and encourage you to use the online process and avoid calling for information.

The Department of Fish and Wildlife is an equal opportunity employer. We strive to create a working environment that includes and respects cultural, racial, and ethnic, sexual orientation and gender identity diversity. Women, racial and ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, persons over 40 years of age, disabled and Vietnam era veterans and people of all sexual orientations and gender identities, are encouraged to apply. Persons needing accommodation in the application process or this announcement in an alternative format may call (360) 902-2276 or the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (360) 902-2207.

SCIENTIFIC TECHNICIAN 2 *02396W Supplemental Questionnaire

- * 1. What best describes your level of education:
- High school diploma or GED
 - Associates degree
 - Bachelor's degree or higher in biology, zoology, or related field of study
 - None of the above
- * 2. What best describes your experience as a Scientific Technician 1 or 2 or equivalent? Experience is based on full time equivalency (i.e., 40 or more hours/week). Part time work is prorated (e.g., 20 hours/week for 6 years = 3 years of experience). Do not count experience that was a part of your educational requirements.
- I have less than 12 months of experience.
 - I have 12 – 23 months of experience.
 - I have 24 – 35 months of experience.
 - I have 36 – 47 months of experience.
 - I have 48 or more months of experience.
 - None of the above
- * 3. What best describes your laboratory or field experience as an assistant to a biologist, chemist, or zoologist? Experience is based on full time equivalency (i.e., 40 or more hours/week). Part time work is prorated (e.g., 20 hours/week for 6 years = 3 years of experience). Do not count experience that was a part of your educational requirements.
- I have less than 12 months of experience.
 - I have 12 – 23 months of experience.
 - I have 24 – 35 months of experience.
 - I have 36 – 47 months of experience.
 - I have 48 or more months of experience.
 - None of the above
- * 4. What best describes the amount of experience you have identifying butterflies in flight?
- I am proficient at identifying butterflies.
 - I can identify many butterflies to species and most butterflies to taxonomic group.
 - I can identify some common butterflies.
 - I do not have this type of experience.
- * 5. Do you have experience conducting butterfly surveys?
- Yes No
- * 6. Do you have field experience working with Taylor's checkerspot or a related subspecies?
- Yes No

- * 7. Please briefly describe your experience conducting butterfly surveys. Include the type of butterfly, the survey technique, and how you obtained this experience.
- * 8. What best describes your experience with radio-telemetry equipment and techniques?
- I have field experience conducting radio-telemetry studies.
 - I have knowledge of radio-telemetry equipment and techniques.
 - I am unfamiliar with radio-telemetry equipment and techniques.
- * 9. What best describes your field experience in live trapping and handling live small wild mammals or birds? Experience is based on full time equivalency (i.e., 40 or more hours of work/week). Part time experience is prorated (e.g., 20 hours of work/week for 6 years = 3 years of full time experience).
- I have never live trapped or handled live small wild mammals or birds.
 - I have live trapped small mammals or birds but not handled them while they were alive.
 - I have 1 week – 1 month of experience (full time) live trapping and handling live small mammals or birds, including the application of identification tags.
 - I have more than 1 month of experience (full time) live trapping and handling live small mammals or birds, including the application of identification tags.
- * 10. Please briefly describe your experience entering and summarizing data into spreadsheets.
- * 11. Are you willing and able to work on open grasslands and in the presence of unexploded ordnance?
- Yes No
- * 12. Are you willing to work on-call any day of the week and with only short notice (1 hour advance notice)?
- Yes No
- * 13. Are you willing and able to perform work requiring you to carry equipment weighing up to 40 pounds?
- Yes No
- * 14. What best describes your level of proficiency using a PC?
- Beginner
 - Intermediate
 - Advanced
 - I am not proficient in the use of a PC.
- * 15. What best describes your proficiency using monitoring equipment:
- I am proficient in the use of binoculars.
 - I am proficient in the use of hand-held GPS units.
 - I am proficient in the use of telemetry equipment.
 - I am proficient in the use of binoculars and GPS units.
 - I am proficient in the use of binoculars and telemetry equipment.
 - I am proficient in the use of hand-held GPS units and telemetry equipment.
 - I am proficient in the use of binoculars, GPS units and telemetry equipment.
 - I am not proficient in the use of this equipment.
- * 16. Are you willing and able to work in all weather conditions including extreme heat and over

difficult terrain and surfaces?

Yes No

* 17. Have you been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony within the last (10) years?
(Answering yes will not automatically bar you from employment).

Yes No

* 18. Do you possess a valid Washington State, or other state, driver's license? (If selected for an interview, you may be asked to furnish your license and driving record.)

Yes No

* 19. Please verify that you have included the following information in your online application:
1) A chronological resume OR a completed online profile that includes education and employment history 2) A detailed cover letter describing how you meet the qualifications for this position. 3) Detailed responses to all supplemental questions. 4) Three professional references.

Yes No

* Required Question