



Position:	Reptile Recovery Field Technician
Project & Location:	Ojibway Prairie Reptile Recovery (OPRREC), Windsor, ON
Type of Position:	Full-time (~37.5 hr. /wk.) seasonal (6 mths), w/possibility of 6 mth extension
Anticipated Start:	2 April, 2018
Rate of Pay:	\$2,535 – \$2,950 per month fixed salary, commensurate on years of experience and level of education
Hours of Work:	Flexible daily and weekly schedule to suit project needs and weather conditions. Working weekends will be required.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Wildlife Preservation Canada (WPC) is seeking two Field Technicians to assist with implementation of 2018 activities related to the OPRREC program. It is anticipated that the most qualified technician will act as team lead. Work will occur at the Ojibway Prairie Complex and Greater Park Ecosystem (OPCGPE) in Windsor and LaSalle Ontario. The ultimate goal of this program is to recover the Ojibway population of Massasauga rattlesnakes, while providing recovery benefits to a suite of other species at risk reptiles, plants, and insects. Working under the direction of the Program Coordinator, the Field Technicians will conduct field work related to the following component(s) of OPPREC: 1) Massasauga population monitoring, 2) threat monitoring and mitigation (e.g., road and mower mortality, intentional killing, illegal collection, and habitat loss), 4) habitat assessment/inventory, 5) habitat enhancement, and 6) public outreach and education. Supervision will be provided on-site by the Program Coordinator based on an initial orientation and training session, followed by regular updates over the course of the field season to discuss progress and solve problems.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Conduct standardized visual encounter, artificial cover object, trail camera and/or barrier fence surveys targeting Massasaugas, Eastern Foxsnakes and Butler's Gartersnakes in order to monitor population distribution, abundance, threats, and/or effectiveness of threat mitigations and habitat enhancements (70%),
2. Conduct standardized road mortality surveys targeting herpetofauna, by bicycle along ~14km of busy city roads (15%),
3. Participate in a variety of other projects and duties as required (e.g., public outreach, data entry, barrier fence installation, responding to human-snake conflict, habitat enhancement, habitat inventory & monitoring, etc. (15%),
4. The lead technician will also be responsible for planning weekly survey targets around variable weather conditions and managing a small team of interns and volunteers.
5. The Field Technicians will use of some or all of the following equipment:
 - a) snake handling tools (snake hook, tubes, and/or tongs)
 - b) hand-held GPS unit, two-way radios, digital camera, borescope and/or trail camera
 - c) laptop computer
 - d) hand tools (e.g., loppers, pruning saw, etc.)

ELIGIBILITY

This position is tentative on funding and this posting (as well as any subsequent follow-up with potential candidates) does not represent a guarantee of this position being available as advertised.

REQUIRED SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Minimum of a college diploma in a related field (e.g., ecosystem management technology, ecological restoration). An undergraduate degree in a related field (e.g., Biology, Environmental Science, etc.) is an asset.
- Experience conducting biological surveys/inventories (especially for rattlesnakes), and ability to record detailed & legible notes.
- Capable of capturing, handling and identifying snakes (especially venomous snakes), frogs and turtles (alive or dead) native to Essex County, Ontario.
- Strong interest in conservation biology, herpetology, and research-based field work.
- Physically fit and able to a) lift heavy objects (e.g., woody debris and small logs), b) ride a bicycle on city streets alongside busy traffic, and c) work outdoors on your feet for extended periods of time.
- Ability and willingness to work professionally and safely under poor weather conditions and in difficult terrain (e.g. thorns, thickets, rain, extreme heat & biting insects) and in rattlesnake habitat.
- Ability to adhere to detailed field protocols, data sensitivity protocols, venomous snake safety protocols and Government of Ontario Occupational Health and Safety regulations.
- Ability to operate relevant equipment (see 'Duties and Responsibilities').
- Ability and willingness to work independently and seek clarification if unsure of correct procedures.
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office suite for word processing and data entry in spreadsheets
- Proven time management skills.
- G-class driver's licence.
- The following are not required, but would be an asset: Proficiency with mapping software (e.g., GIS or Google Earth), Wilderness First Aid certification, experience conducting public outreach and education, experience managing staff/interns/volunteers, experience with plant identification (SAR and invasive species), experience conducting habitat inventories (e.g., ELC), and access to a vehicle.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Health and safety training will be provided by the Program Coordinator at the start of the position. This will include a review of written and audio-visual resources to identify safe practices while working with venomous snakes, in field conditions, on roads and in inclement weather. The location of first aid equipment and supplies will be identified. The Field Technicians will be covered by Ontario Workers' Compensation and will travel in vehicles with adequate insurance during the employment term.

TO APPLY

Please send a cover letter and resume to Jonathan Choquette, OPRREC Program Coordinator, [ojibwayreptiles\[at\]wildlifepreservation.ca](mailto:ojibwayreptiles[at]wildlifepreservation.ca). Please submit your application as a single PDF or MS word file attachment and include in the email subject heading "OPRREC – Field Technician". Application deadline is 11:59pm, 5 March 2018, however, applications will be assessed as they are submitted.

Please note this position is only open to Canadian residents. Only individuals considered for an interview will be contacted.

We thank you for your interest!