

Natural Resources Job Board

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Field technician position for American marten in Turtle Mountains, ND

Michigan State University (State)

Details

Posting: <https://careers.msu.edu/en-us/job/518506/technical-aide>

Application Deadline: 07/05/2024

Published: 05/21/2024

Starting Date: after 8/1/2024

Ending Date: after 11/15/2024

Hours per Week: 40

Salary: \$15 to \$17 per hour

Education Required: Some Undergraduate

Experience Required: none

Location: St John, North Dakota 

University is looking to hire two seasonal field technicians (with a maximum of 40 hours/week) to lead non-invasive genetic sampling of American marten using hair snares in the Turtle Mountain Region of North Dakota, USA. Selected candidate will be responsible for assembling, setting, and maintaining hair snares and collecting hair samples and photographs from sampling locations. Project goals are to develop a robust estimate of population size and individual survival for American marten in the Turtle Mountains. Candidate will conduct fieldwork while communicating closely with researchers at Michigan State University and North Dakota Game and Fish. Approximate start date is August 1st (negotiable) with an anticipated duration of 3 months. The selected candidate will receive priority for re-hire in future field seasons contingent upon performance.

This position requires a candidate capable of working independently in a remote field location under limited supervision. Efficiency and a positive attitude working in rugged terrain and difficult field conditions (e.g., insects, heat, thick vegetation) is necessary. We expect candidates to have a strong field background as well as being organized and detail-oriented in data collection and entry. Familiarity with non-invasive genetic sampling and trail cameras is desired.

Housing in the Turtle Mountain study area will be provided by North Dakota Game and Fish. Michigan State University will provide a field truck for all transportation needs.

To apply, submit a letter of interest, CV or resume, and contact information for three references in a single document at <https://careers.msu.edu/en-us/job/518506/technical-aide>. We will review applications beginning June 15th but will accept additional applications until the position is filled.

General duties:

- Operation of full-size 4WD field truck to and from sampling sites
- Placement and rotation of hair snare sampling stations in Turtle Mountain study area

- Setting, maintaining, and data collection using trail cameras
- Coordinates with colleagues at Michigan State University and North Dakota Game and Fish regarding updates, tasks, and logistics
- Collection, organization, and storage of hair samples for genetic testing
- Communicate and interact with private landowners

Preferred qualifications and attributes:

- Degree or progress toward degree in field of natural resources. Will also consider applicants with extensive field experience
- Experience assembling, maintaining, and collecting samples from hair snares (or collection of similar biological samples)
- Experience setting and collecting data from trail cameras
- Experience with GIS and mapping (not required)
- Willingness to work in inclement weather and field conditions
- Ability to navigate remote areas and hike in rugged terrain
- Ability to use GPS and maps for navigation
- Accurate and efficient data entry
- Self-motivated and independent
- Organized and detail-oriented
- Clear communication and ability to interact with private stakeholders

Contact

Steven Gray

graystev@msu.edu (preferred contact method)

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