

## Field Technician

**Duration & Time Commitment:** May 17, 2021 – October 15, 2021

**Salary:** \$20/hour

**Job Classification:** Limited Duration

**Supervisor:** Steigerwald Project Manager

### OVERVIEW

*The Estuary Partnership has well-established technical programs including ecosystem monitoring and restoration; data management; water quality improvement; and technical assistance. The Science Team coordinates and implements regional restoration and monitoring activities; facilitates information exchange among partners; identifies regional information and resource needs; and leads efforts to fill these gaps. Since 2000, the Estuary Partnership and its partners have completed over 200 actions representing 22,685 acres restored or protected.*

### POSITION SUMMARY

This position is part of a team that is implementing the Steigerwald Reconnection Project (Steigerwald Project), a habitat restoration and flood risk reduction project located in Washougal, Washington on approximately 1,000 acres of Columbia River floodplain. The project includes the following specific actions: removing 2.2 miles of existing levee, constructing two setback levees to protect property and infrastructure, elevating approximately 1,300 linear feet of State Route (SR) 14, removing Gibbons Creek's diversion structure and elevated canal, implementing general habitat enhancements (including placement of over 1,800 pieces of large woody debris), reforesting 225 acres of native riparian habitat, and reconstructing the site's parking lot and network of hiking trails.

The Steigerwald Project is in its third year of construction. During 2021, the Steigerwald team will finish construction of the east and west setback levees, excavate four floodplain connection channels, install two pedestrian bridges, construct the trail system and numerous floodplain habitat features, and reforest approximately 140 acres of native riparian forest. The Estuary Partnership leads a project team that includes three Estuary Partnership employees, the engineering team, the construction management team, the prime contractor, and an aquatic habitat restoration contractor.

This position primarily will collect and process turbidity samples, generate turbidity monitoring reports, assist with vegetation and photo monitoring, assist with fish salvage and relocation, oversee aspects of construction (primarily the installation of large woody debris), assist with regulatory compliance and reporting, and perform other duties related to the construction of the Steigerwald Project. Employees in this position interact regularly with three Estuary Partnership staff, Estuary Partnership consultants and contractors, and staff from other agencies and organizations.

This position offers a great opportunity to gain professional field experience to those pursuing a career in stream/wetland restoration, natural resource conservation, or a related field. The intent of this position is to provide valuable experience in a variety of areas related to the design, construction, permitting, and management of large habitat restoration projects. The Estuary Partnership places a priority on applications from candidates who come from or have experience with diverse populations and underserved communities, including communities of color and low-income communities.

**Work Environment.** This position requires outdoor work in all weather conditions, navigating difficult terrain on foot, wading in flowing water, operating off-road vehicles, and conducting physically demanding field work. All work takes place at an active construction site and will require daily travel to Washougal, WA. This position requires flexibility to accommodate early morning starts, 10-hour work days, occasional weekend availability, and a four day work week. The Steigerwald Project team will provide guidance regarding specific tasks; however, employees in this position are expected to work with a fair degree of independence.

All Estuary Partnership employees build and strengthen partnerships and foster collaboration with a variety of viewpoints and diverse interests to serve all communities and give people parity and equal engagement with and in the protection of natural resources.

#### **REQUIRED EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, KNOWLEDGE, AND AVAILABILITY**

- Recent undergraduate or graduate student with knowledge or experience related to riverine or habitat restoration, natural resource or watershed management in one of the following fields: hydrology, fluvial geomorphology, engineering, fisheries science, botany, forest ecology, and/or habitat conservation.
- Experience with Microsoft Office products.
- Experience adhering to established data collection, sampling, and monitoring protocols.
- Strong communication skills. The ability to communicate and interact with diverse populations, including project partners, contractors, engineers, and Estuary Partnership staff.
- Demonstrated ability to work individually and in teams and with a collaborative approach.
- Experience working outdoors and in inclement weather.
- Experience operating utility terrain vehicles (UTVs) or willingness to learn.
- Must commit and be available for the full duration of the specified period (May 17, 2021 through October 15, 2021).
- Must be comfortable working on an active construction site in and around heavy equipment.

#### **PREFERRED EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE**

- Experience working on active construction sites in and around heavy equipment.
- Experience reading and working with construction plan sets/drawings.

#### **ESSENTIAL DUTIES**

- Manage work assignments; ensure appropriate completion of timelines, deadlines, project objectives and tasks. Respond to feedback from supervisor.
- Lead turbidity monitoring and reporting.
- Assist with fish salvage and relocation.
- Assist with construction oversight, as needed.
- Assist with photo monitoring, including taking and downloading photos and organizing files.
- Assist with vegetation monitoring.
- Assist with regulatory reporting to various government agencies.
- Participate in weekly construction team meetings.
- Other duties, as needed, to assist with the successful construction of the project.

#### **ORGANIZATION STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE**

- Place the river and public trust at the forefront. Support and promote the mission and work of the Estuary Partnership. Be familiar with the activities of all Estuary Partnership program areas, the lower Columbia River and the National Estuary Program, natural resource protection, and community programming.
- Include diverse and underserved communities, such as communities of color, Indigenous people, and low-income communities, to improve racial, gender, and cultural responsiveness when working with colleagues and partners and in carrying out job duties and responsibilities.
- Cultivate a positive work ethic and inclusive work environment. Exhibit a positive attitude and high level of professionalism. Support Estuary Partnership employees, Board members, volunteers, and partners.
- Provide exceptional service, internally and externally. Adapt and continually improve.
- Attend work regularly and on-time.