



Research Technician, Limited Duration

Duration & Time Commitment: June 2022 – September 2022

Salary Range: \$20/hour

Job Classification: Limited Duration

Supervisor: Senior Scientist

Location: Portland, Oregon

OVERVIEW. *The Estuary Partnership has a well-established ecosystem monitoring, action effectiveness monitoring, and restoration programs. Under our Ecosystem Monitoring Program, we collect habitat structure, hydrology, fish, food web, and abiotic condition data annually at five relatively undisturbed emergent marsh habitats of the lower Columbia River. Under our Action Effectiveness Monitoring Program, we collect a subset of similar metrics that allow us to assess the effectiveness of habitat restoration actions. Under our Restoration Program we collect site condition data to use in hydrologic and ecological functions models to assess the feasibility of various restoration design scenarios. These programs started in 2003 and have expanded and evolved in that time to nine science team staff with diverse educational and professional backgrounds and experiences. Our team works with multiple top-notch academic and public agency researchers to ensure state-of-the-art scientific methods.*

POSITION SUMMARY

The Research Technician works with the Estuary Partnership's ecosystem monitoring and habitat restoration action effectiveness monitoring programs. The position primarily collects monitoring data and assists with data quality assurance, management, and analyses activities.

This position offers a great opportunity to gain professional field and lab experience to those pursuing a career in the natural resource conservation or related field. The intent of this position is to provide valuable experience in basic and advanced field data collection, processing, and management that will support future career goals. We place 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.

This position is part of a team that implements components of the Estuary Partnership Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan, biennial workplans, and six-year implementation strategies for technical programs, including restoration, monitoring, and data collection, analysis, and management. Employees in this position work with a fair degree of independence and maintain regular communication with members of the Science Team.

Work Environment. This position is based with the Estuary Partnership out of our Portland, Oregon office. The work will regularly take place in a field setting that requires regular travel throughout the Estuary Partnership study area between Bonneville Dam and the Pacific Ocean along both the Oregon

and Washington sides of the Columbia River. It sometimes requires early morning starts and occasional weekends. Fieldwork occurs in wetlands or on the river, in various weather conditions, and includes navigating difficult terrain on foot and carrying field gear to monitoring sites. The position requires a valid driver's license.

This position also involves spending a considerable amount of time in a laboratory setting processing field samples and calibrating equipment. This position also includes data entry and data analysis using excel as well as the potential to expand into processing UAV imagery and rectification in ArcSuite.

REQUIRED EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE

- Knowledge or experience related to natural resource or watershed management, including hydrology, water quality, marine sciences, biology, habitat conservation, statistics, data analysis, UAV, or related field.
- One year or more experience (which can be a combination of student course and/or work experience) collecting and analyzing field data and applying analytical approaches to evaluate ecosystem conditions, fish use, and site conditions.
- One year or more experience (which can be a combination of student course and/or work experience) adhering to established data processing protocols and using Excel for basic data entry and management; using and manipulating statistics software; sample design; and collecting, managing, and analyzing data; reporting results and methodologies.
- Experience with remote sense technology and mapping such as working with photogrammetry and mapping software Pix4D, ArcMap, and/or ArcPro.
- Interest and willingness to work outdoors and in inclement weather. Comfort working in and around water; navigating difficult terrain, including mudflats and tall grass; and collecting monitoring data in a variety of conditions ranging from cold and wet to hot and humid weather.
- Flexibility and availability for early morning starts, overnight stays, and occasional weekend work schedules.
- Working individually and collaboratively both when remote and in person.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills. The ability to communicate and interact in a positive, professional manner with diverse populations, project partners, staff, volunteers, youth, and the general public.
- A valid driver's license.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES

- Complete assigned work; manage and track simultaneous projects, meeting all deadlines and objectives; adhere to organization policies and procedures; and respond to feedback from supervisor and team members.
- Communicate regularly with supervisor and team members on development and delivery of programs.
- Collect, analyze, and manage field data to assess ecosystem conditions, fish use, habitat restoration feasibility, and site conditions (e.g., deployment and retrieval of data loggers, vegetation identification, fish collection, GPS surveying, and other as-needed field tasks).
- Work with monitoring subcontractors, provide quality assurance of the data collected, and coordinate delivery and dissemination of monitoring data.

- Assist with and write project reports and updates, technical documents, disseminate program or project information, and make presentations on project or program information.
- Regular travel throughout the lower Columbia River area to conduct fieldwork. Occasional after-hours and weekend work is required.

RELATED DUTIES

- Prepare project reports and presentations as directed.
- Participate in all-staff meetings.
- Participate in team meetings to discuss and advance program objectives, enhance collaboration, and identify resource needs required to complete projects.
- Participate in the Science Work Group.
- Other related duties as assigned.

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.
- Cultivate a positive work ethic and team 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.
- Include diverse populations and underserved communities, including communities of color 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.