

Position Announcement: Wildlife Field Technician – Grizzly Bear trapping assistant (#23-02); University of Montana / US Fish and Wildlife Service; Cabinet-Yaak/Selkirk Mountains Grizzly Bear Study, Libby MT Closing Date: 13 February 2023

Position: Two or three field assistants are needed positions from 15 May- 30 September of 2023 to assist with capture and radio-collaring of grizzly and black bears in northwest Montana, northern Idaho, or northeast Washington. Position is employed by University of Montana but supervised by US Fish and Wildlife Service. The position will utilize vehicles, foot travel, mountain bikes, or horses to access trap sites.

Duties: Persons will assist the trap team leader in establishing field camps, construction and operation of trap lines, taking into account public and wildlife safety concerns, capturing bears through use of Aldrich foot snares, collecting scientific data on study animals, maintaining and organizing equipment, precisely and legibly completing and entering data forms, radio-collaring target animals, and telemetry relocation using hand-held radio receivers. Position will also establish hair snag sites for DNA studies and use remote cameras. Study area is in northwest Montana, northern Idaho, and northeast Washington. Employee will live in a variety of field camps, typically in travel trailers.

Qualifications: Valid state driver's license required and must be presented to the supervisor for inspection on the first day of work. Ability to: work and live in remote locations for extended periods of time with minimal creature comforts; carry heavy objects, e.g. 30+ pounds of carrion, over steep terrain in all types of weather; set Aldrich snares with heavy tension springs; operate the following equipment: manual transmission, 4-wheel drive pick-up trucks, often in inclement weather on unimproved forest roads; pulling and backing up trailers; 12 gauge pump shotgun; GPS; INREACH satellite communicator; and two cycle power tools (chainsaw, brush hog, etc). Wildlife handling experience through chemical immobilization preferred. One trap team will work off mountain bikes: knowledge of general bike maintenance and repair as well as previous backcountry biking experience, including bicycle trailering of gear, also preferred. One trap team will work with pack stock: use of decker saddles and horse handling/care experience is preferred for that position. Successful applicant will be required to demonstrate proficiency in safe firearms handling (12 gauge pump shotgun and rim fire dart gun). Experience with remote cameras or hair snagging techniques is desirable.

Terms of Appointment: Beginning 15 May through 30 September, 2023. \$17 per hour, plus \$20.00/day per diem; housing in field camps provided, Work schedule is 20-21 days on, 10 days off. Employees will be required to provide their own transportation to the job site, but a government vehicle will be used for work related activities.

Please contact us with any questions. To apply send a generous resume and cover letter with dates of availability to email or mailing address below on or before February 13, 2023. Due to very few trap tech hires, please consider all other program positions for which you are qualified. If applying for more than one position, please note this in your cover letter and submit only one resume. Files should be labeled: YOUR_NAME_Coverletter23_02.pdf, YOUR_NAME_Resume23_02.pdf.

Contact: Wayne Kasworm, US Fish and Wildlife Service, 385 Fish Hatchery Road, Libby, MT 59923 406-293-4161 ext 205 Wayne_Kasworm@fws.gov