

Job Opportunity – Environmental Monitoring Technician (1-2 positions)

Blazing Star Environmental is collaborating with Henvey Inlet First Nation (HIFN) and Laurentian University to conduct a long-term reptile monitoring program to support species at risk turtle and snake populations within HIFN territory.

The goal of the program is to understand the effects of the fire and the wind project on snakes and turtles and their habitat and monitor the change in population size over time.

We are looking for 1-2 HIFN community members who are interested in learning different ways of studying reptile populations. Most of the work will be outside at locations on HIFN reserve #2 and in nearby control sites. Monitors will be responsible for finding, capturing, and processing reptiles; conducting vegetation monitoring; setting up experimental plots for plant and reptile monitoring.

The monitors will spend long periods outdoors, wading in wetlands, walking through the bush and need to be comfortable working under all kinds of weather.

Anticipated Start Date

Mid-April to early May 2021 (dependent on weather and COVID-19 restrictions)

Term of employment

One position will be a 5-6 month full-time contract (average of 30-37.5 hours/week) subject to the skills of the successful candidate and suitable weather. The successful candidate may get future opportunities to work on this project.

Location

Henvey Inlet First Nation Reserve #2 and French River Provincial Park (FRPP)

Job Description

With direction from the Conservation Biologist and Principal, Environmental Monitoring Technicians will:

- Complete daily reptile monitoring activities
- Find, capture, handle and mark snakes and turtles
- Complete vegetation monitoring activities
- Record data collected in the field
- Maintain monitoring equipment; and
- Communicate effectively with team members.

Required Skills

- Ability to work in a positive team environment
- Commitment to arrive on-time and be ready to work every day
- Interest in learning different approaches to monitoring reptiles
- Ability to work for long periods of time outside under different kinds of weather (e.g. rain, heat, cold, etc.)
- Willingness to safely work in cold water for extended periods when conducting reptile surveys
- Willingness to work long days and weekends when survey conditions are optimal
- Willingness to capture and handle snakes and turtles (training will be provided)
- Transportation to and from meeting points near HIFN
- Attention to detail
- Good written and verbal communication skills

Beneficial Attributes

- Experience capturing and handling animals
- Experience working with venomous snakes
- First Aid or CPR certifications
- Eligible for Canada Summer Jobs program
- Have a valid G class Ontario Driver's license

Learning Opportunities

- Reptile handling

- Radio-telemetry experience
- Vegetation identification skills

Candidates should indicate whether they are eligible for Canada Summer Jobs in their application (<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding/canada-summer-jobs.html>). Eligibility requirements listed in Appendix A. This is not required but would allow two positions to be filled.

Apply early as the position(s) will be filled as soon as a suitable candidate is found. Please apply by e-mailing your resume and cover letter to Monique Aarts by 11:59 pm. Please include Environmental Monitoring Technician in the subject line.

Monique Aarts
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Appendix A: Canada Summer Jobs Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible, the individual must:

- be between 15 and 30 years of age at the start of the employment*
- be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or person to whom refugee protection has been conferred under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act for the duration of the employment**; and,
- have a valid Social Insurance Number at the start of employment and be legally entitled to work in Canada in accordance with relevant provincial or territorial legislation and regulations

*The youth must be 15 years of age at the beginning of the employment period. The youth may be more than 30 years of age at the end of the employment period as long as the youth was 30 at the beginning of the employment period.

**International students are not eligible participants. International students include anyone who is temporarily in Canada for studies and who is not a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or person who has been granted refugee status in Canada. Youth awaiting a refugee status ruling, as well as those who hold a temporary visitor visa, youth visa or work visa are ineligible. As the objective of the Canada Summer Jobs program is to support youth entering the Canadian labour market, the temporary nature of an international student's time in Canada does not allow for a long-term connection to the labour market.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding/canada-summer-jobs.html>