Species at Risk Technician (1-2 positions, funding dependent)

Anticipated Start Date: May 1, 2016

Payment Description: 6 month full-time (37.5 hours/week) contract with possibility of extension.

Location: Blazing Star Environmental office - 376 Arbor Court, Oshawa, ON

Job Description

The Species at Risk Technician will support the Conservation Biologist and Principal on all of Blazing Star Environmental’s projects with a focus on fieldwork and the associated data entry and report writing. This position will include conducting biological research, monitoring and inventories, interacting with clients, and working as part of a team. The position will be based at the Blazing Star Environmental Office located in Oshawa, with fieldwork occurring all across southern Ontario.

Specific Responsibilities

- Conduct biological surveys for species at risk
- Conduct research on eastern foxsnake, massasauga and queensnake
- Lead a team to effectively complete field work
- Measure, weigh and collect samples from species at risk snakes
- Assist with educational hikes and presentations to the public
- Input data recorded in the field into spreadsheets and databases
- Communicate with partner organizations and clients
- Create GIS maps and complete GIS analyses
- Gather data from various sources to input into mapping software
- Compile results into final reports to clients

Required Skills

- Knowledge of biology and ecology including conservation biology, biodiversity and species at risk issues
- Knowledge of Ontario’s herpetofauna, including species identification and ecology
- Excellent verbal communications skills
- Good organizational and problem-solving skills
Demonstrated ability to work independently, as part of a team and to collaborate with multiple partners
- Proficiency with Microsoft PowerPoint, Excel, Word.
- Willingness to work long days and weekends when conducting field work or outreach activities
- Willingness to regularly travel throughout southern Ontario for fieldwork and outreach
- Have a valid G-class Ontario driver’s license
- Be legally entitled to work in Canada

Beneficial Attributes
- Knowledge of GIS mapping software, and Microsoft Access
- Knowledge of plants, birds, bats, invertebrates or fish
- Certification or experience in Ecological Land Classification
- Certification or experience in Ontario Wetland Evaluation System

Potential Learning Opportunities
- Snake fungal disease and species detection probability research
- Certification from the Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Survey Course
- Experience conducting Ecological Land Classification
- Experience creating formal bids for environmental consulting projects

The successful candidate must be eligible for a CICan Clean Tech internship (http://cleantech.collegesinstitutes.ca/interns/) OR an Environmental Youth Corps internship (http://www.eco.ca/training/become-an-intern/).

Please apply by e-mailing your resume and cover letter to John Urquhart by April 15, 2016. Please include Species at Risk Technician in the subject line.

John Urquhart
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www.blazingstar.ca (under construction – anticipated launch date of April 8).