



North Willamette Watershed District
Wildlife / Conservation Intern (Clackamas - Fall)
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Job Number 15

Location: Based out of the Clackamas ODFW office; Work to be conducted in Multnomah, Washington, Clackamas, Columbia, Yamhill, Polk, and Marion counties. Housing may be provided contingent on need and availability.

Pay: \$17.32/hour

Duration: Not to exceed 400 hours between September 2024 - December 2024

Job Description: This position will provide a student intern with on-the-job training experiences in wildlife management and conservation. The selected intern will assist with surveys for a variety of wildlife species and will be involved in wildlife population monitoring, disease surveillance, addressing human-wildlife conflict, and implementation of Oregon's State Wildlife Action Plan: the Oregon Conservation Strategy. The intern is expected to gain the ability to develop and refine academic and professional goals and understand the structure and operation of a natural resource agency. The intern will have the opportunity to participate in wildlife research and data collection used to guide wildlife management decisions and wildlife habitat improvement projects. The successful applicant will have the opportunity to work and interact with the public on behalf of the state of Oregon, collect data using standardized survey protocols, learn about and conduct data analysis, and develop technical writing skills.

District Wildlife Duties:

Assist with wildlife composition surveys (25%)

- Conduct night-time spotlight surveys to estimate sex ratios and juvenile recruitment rates of black-tailed deer to evaluate effects of human harvest on populations.
- Deploy and retrieve camera traps to monitor wildlife populations and analyze collected photographs to identify species, sex, and age classes.
- Assist with construction, deployment, maintenance, checking, and retrieval of forest grouse wing collection barrels.
- Assist with presence-absence surveys for American beaver.
- Generate maps of survey routes using GIS.
- Enter, manage, and visualize collected data.

Biological sampling (10%)

- Collect teeth, lymph nodes, and other biological samples and morphometric data from hunter-harvested or roadkill salvaged wildlife.
- Gain familiarity with Oregon state laws and affix official seals to animal carcasses when required.
- Enter and manage collected data.
- Work with Wildlife Health Lab staff to ship or hand deliver collected samples as needed.
- Assist with examinations and necropsies of wildlife.

Assist in addressing wildlife conflicts (5%)

- Contact members of the public reporting wildlife conflicts, provide information on animal ecology, and enter complaints into a database.
- Accompany staff in the field on damage inspections.
- Assist with capture, handling, and transport of injured/ill wildlife.

Assist with implementation of district programs (5%)

- Perform data organization and quality control.
- Assist with falconry inspections and capture permits.
- Assist with inspection of wildlife rehabilitation, captive cervid, and other permitted wildlife holding facilities.

Other duties as assigned (5%)

- Provide oral presentations to constituent groups.
- Maintain wildlife equipment and vehicles.
- Enter and summarize data, complete reports, and scan documents.
- Assist with habitat improvement projects including planting native species, removing invasive species, and coordination with outside organizations.

Conservation Program Duties:**Assist with conservation strategy species monitoring (25%)**

- Conduct northwestern pond turtle and western painted turtle population monitoring using live-trapping, mark/recapture, nest search, and visual basking survey techniques.
- Handle freshwater turtles (native and invasive species) to identify species, sex, and age. Collect biometric data.
- Conduct periodic checks of artificial cover objects to document use by reptiles and amphibians.

- Conduct surveys for still-water breeding and stream-associated amphibians to document presence and relative abundance.
- Participate in BioBlitz surveys to document presence of priority wildlife species in priority habitats.
- Follow standardized survey protocols to collect accurate data in field conditions while adhering to agency safety protocols.

Assist in conservation research and policy development (20%)

- Compile information and enter data into electronic formats using MS Word, Excel, Survey123, and GIS.
- Assist with invasive species control efforts and basic gut contents analyses of captured American bullfrogs.
- Conduct scientific literature reviews and synthesize information into technical written format.
- Help develop Best Management Practices and technical guidance documents for priority nongame wildlife species.

Assist in conservation outreach and education efforts (5%)

- Respond to and verify reports of turtles and other priority wildlife submitted by the public to ODFW
- Respond to the public's requests for wildlife information and assist with wildlife-human conflict situations

Helpful Skills:

Experience with wildlife species identification, basic hand and electric tools, hiking/backpacking in remote areas, using a variety of navigation options, Microsoft office, and customer service. Knowledge of wildlife survey techniques.

Working

This position will require frequent work outside during inclement weather. Work on weekends and before or after daylight hours may be required. The intern will need to transport equipment over rough terrain and work in and around rivers and other waterbodies.

This position requires a flexible work schedule that varies in the number of hours worked on a daily basis, but not necessarily each day, or a work schedule in which the starting and stopping times vary on a daily basis, but not necessarily each day, and does not exceed forty (40) hours in a work week. Work exceeding 40 hours per week requires prior approval by the supervisor.

Interactions with public, private landowners, local residents, environmental consulting firms, and other agency personnel are frequent, and a well-developed sense of diplomacy is required.