Position Overview

The Sierra Institute for Community and Environment (Sierra Institute), in cooperation with Lassen Volcanic National Park (LAVO), is hiring one Biological Technician (Wildlife) to work with and assist the LAVO Wildlife Biologist in all tasks associated with wildlife inventory and monitoring in the park. The work will include specific tasks such as conducting surveys for California Spotted Owl, Northern Goshawk, and American pika, installing and maintaining remote cameras for wildlife monitoring, and assisting with operation of the parks Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) bird banding station. This position may also assist with small mammal trapping on occasion. Other duties may include bear hazing and public education and assisting other programs within the Resource Management Division as needed. The applicant should be capable of hiking up to six miles daily while carrying a pack weighing up to forty pounds. The position is a field position and will get to visit a large area of the park and includes work in some of the most sensitive and beautiful areas. This position may also participate in similar activities to advance other collaborative restoration projects in Plumas and Lassen Counties.

This is a great opportunity to learn about the wildlife species that inhabit the park and surrounding areas while honing wildlife identification skills through hands assessment and capturing of birds and small mammals.

There will be opportunities to join other resource management crews and gain experience in numerous other tasks. This position is part of an exciting partnership between Sierra Institute for Community and Environment and Lassen Volcanic NP to complete a variety of important Wildlife monitoring activities.

Responsibilities

Implementation
The incumbent works as team member to safely conduct surveys for wildlife. Conducting surveys and monitoring wildlife is important to ensure wildlife populations remain unimpaired for future generations. This project will provide an incredible opportunity for the incumbent to gain critical skills that may lead to future work in national parks throughout the western US. The position is considered a developmental opportunity and will train the individual in proven and common methods of wildlife inventory and monitoring.

Operations and Safety
The work required of the incumbent involves objective hazards. The incumbent is expected to practice situational awareness, directly addressing and/or raising safety concerns as they arise. Training will be provided to ensure the incumbent’s ability to safely execute job functions.
Qualifications

Required

● Minimum of a high school diploma; preferred college or community college experience; must be 18 to apply;
● Demonstrated interest in wildlife or other natural resource management, this may include but is not limited to biological research and survey work, land conservation, wildland fire, etc.;
● Ability to perform physically taxing work in all weather conditions in rugged mountainous environments (i.e hike 6+ miles a day with a 40lb pack);
● Knowledgeable and proficient in backcountry travel;
● Sufficient equipment to perform the work, including sturdy shoes and appropriate clothing for a range of environments;
● Good communication skills to effectively interact with the public and co-workers;
● Interest in, or familiarity with, principles of wildlife management, forestry, or botany;
● A valid driver’s license and access to reliable transportation;

Preferred

● Bachelor’s degree
● Knowledge of, or familiarity with wildlife and wildlife identification (using field guides) in California or other western states;
● Any current wilderness medical training certification (e.g., WFA, WFR, WEMT);
● Leave No Trace or other backcountry ethics training;
● Interest in, or familiarity with, wildlife species of the southern Cascades;

Please note these qualifications are what we believe is necessary to ensure the selected applicant is successful in this position, however we encourage all who are interested to apply and highlight how their experience and background will make them successful.

Physical Requirements

The incumbent will be expected to walk 4-8 miles per day with a weighted field pack, ample water, and tools over rough terrain and in variable weather conditions, which will likely include high temperatures in the summer months. Strenuous and repetitive physical effort will be associated with conducting biological surveys, and long days of hiking in beautiful places.

Compensation

Compensation is $17.00 per hour for 20 weeks, weather and fire permitting. Housing is available for a fee in Mineral, CA at the Lassen Volcanic NP headquarters. Housing includes a room of one’s own and shared bathroom and kitchen facilities in a limited occupancy house.

The Sierra Institute offers a competitive benefits package for field staff including paid sick leave, paid holidays, and a fixed number of paid wildfire mitigation leave days according to time employed. Health benefits through Sierra Institute are not available for this position, but may be obtained through Covered California (https://www.coveredca.com). All necessary training will be provided, including basic first aid.

How to Apply

Please send your cover letter, resume, and contact information for three references as one PDF to jobs@sierrainstitute.us with “Biological Technician (Wildlife)” in the subject line.

Application review and interviews will be conducted on a rolling basis. Position is open until filled.