

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION JOB OPPORTUNITY

Title: Bat Biologist (Wildlife Biologist)

Region: Statewide

Location: Columbia, MO

Start Date: Immediately

End Date: Renewed annually based on approval of annual budget

Pay Rate: \$17.69/ hour

Closing Date: 7/23/2021

Description: The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) has an opening for a full-time bat biologist to work on multiple bat research and monitoring projects throughout the state. This position's primary responsibilities will be serving as a site lead in mist net bat-capture surveys in addition to conducting and coordinating hibernacula count surveys of bat species throughout Missouri. Additional projects will include acoustic monitoring, habitat assessments, and harp trapping.

Overnight travel within the state will be required for multiple projects throughout the year. There may be opportunities to assist with data analysis, manuscript writing, and professional/public presentations.

General Responsibilities Include:

- Training and supervising seasonal staff and volunteers.
- Locating field sites (mist netting or acoustic survey sites, cave entrances, etc.) using GPS units and maps
- Coordinating meetings between academic, agency, and non-government organization partners.
- Coordinating access to MDC lands and caves.
- Operating ATVs and UTVs
- Driving trucks and towing ATV/UTV trailers
- Carrying 50+ lbs. of equipment over rugged, uneven terrain (up to ¼ mile)
- Work outdoors in extreme and undesirable conditions (i.e., hot/ cold temperatures, overnight)
- Design and digitize datasheets
- Building and managing databases in Microsoft Access
- Answering public questions in digital and in-person settings
- Managing data and tissue sample requests/reports
- Inventorying and purchasing field equipment

Basic Qualifications:

- A bachelor's degree in natural resources, wildlife biology or related field
- A completed pre-exposure rabies vaccination course.
- A federal permit or the documented required experience to apply for Indiana bats (*Myotis sodalis*), northern long-eared bats (*Myotis septentrionalis*), and gray bats (*Myotis grisescens*) permits. Experience with mist-netting, TIR video, and/or acoustic monitoring of bats and identifying Eastern bat species in hand, visually during hibernacula counts, and/or acoustically.
- Proficiency with GIS data and its applications. Familiarity with ESRI ARCMAP or ARCPRO preferred.
- Ability to work underground
- Willingness and ability to travel overnight throughout the state
- Willingness to accept all responsibilities of the job and assigned tasks
- Demonstrate technical proficiency in areas of responsibility

- Demonstrate critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Ability to maintain focus, remain optimistic and persistent even under adversity
- Ability to communicate well with team members, collaborators, and supervisors
- Ability to represent the Department in a professional manner during encounters with the public.
- Valid driver's license

Preferred Qualifications:

- A master's degree in natural resources or other related field (preference for bat related thesis)
- Experience loading/towing trailers
- Experience working in cave environments

Special Notes:

The Department of Conservation will only hire United States citizens and aliens authorized to work in the United States. All new employees will be required to complete an 'Employment Eligibility Certification' form (Form I-9) and produce requested documentation after employment.

Candidates seeking initial employment must submit to a drug screen following offer of employment.

Applications will be reviewed as they are received.

Contact Person:

Send cover letter, CV, and contact information for 3 references via email in a single PDF attachment to [Jordan Meyer \(Jordan.Meyer@mdc.mo.gov\)](mailto:Jordan.Meyer@mdc.mo.gov).

For more information about the position, contact Jordan Meyer (Jordan.Meyer@mdc.mo.gov)