



JOB DESCRIPTION

Title: Auxiliary BIO24 Ecosystems Habitat Biologist (2 positions available)

Ministry: Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (MFLNRORD)

Work Unit: Ecosystems Section, Land, Water, and Resource Stewardship, Skeena Region, Smithers BC

Supervisor (s): Karine Pigeon (Senior Habitat Biologist) & Anne-Marie Roberts (Wildlife Ecologist)

Overview of Position:

Two temporary, Auxiliary Biologist 24 (Bio 24) positions are available within the Skeena LWRS Ecosystems Section, based out of Smithers in Northwest BC.

The positions can start the week of ~June 15th, 2022 and go until March 31st 2023. These dates will be finalized with the successful candidate's start date availability (approximately 10 Month term).

The successful applicants will lead the development of legal habitat designation packages for moose (1 position) and grizzly bear (1 position) and support the identification of moose and grizzly bear wildlife habitat areas in the southern portion of the Skeena region (focus in the Lakes and Morice TSAs for moose position, and Lakes and Kalum TSAs for grizzly bear position). The selected individuals will complete identification and delineation of candidate moose winter range and grizzly bear wildlife habitat areas. Using seasonal habitat mapping and modeling (v1 products available) and verification data (some field and survey data available, with additional field data collection planned for summer 2022) they will finalize the delineation of habitat polygons for the purposes of legal designation. The successful candidates will create and refine General Wildlife Measures (GWMs) for moose winter range and bear habitat area to provide clear and measurable direction for forestry practices within legal areas, including the development of the rationale to support the designations.

The Bio 24s will also have a substantial role advancing the South Skeena Moose and Grizzly Bear Habitat Models. They will be required to understand the model, review outputs, support, and complete desktop verification and analyses to integrate data from a range of sources and inform and guide improvements. The successful applicants may also collaboratively work with First Nations on next steps and improvements.

The Bio 24 will co-ordinate their work with First Nation stewardship initiatives including participating in ecological and wildlife habitat assessments. Their involvement in the field programs will provide continuity between information collected through collaborative, ground-based, field assessments and the habitat modelling and habitat designation products.

Job Requirements

The ideal candidates will be highly motivated, positive self-starters who take initiative to get tasks completed. They must work well independently and as part of multidisciplinary teams. They require excellent oral and written communication skills, and strong organizational skills. The candidates must have a background in biology/ecology, have experience with habitat modelling and with ecological field projects. Experience with either grizzly bear or moose stewardship is an asset.

Education

The candidate must demonstrate that they have the following education:

- minimum of a bachelor's degree in biological sciences/related field or
- a diploma in a related field.

Experience

The candidate must demonstrate that they have the following experience:

- minimum of three years experience working in biological sciences (or an acceptable combination of education and experience);
- experience with field-based biological sampling;
- experience with ecological, vegetation and/or wildlife field data analysis;
- working as an effective team member;
- project management;
- data management and databases;
- experience using ArcGIS to review spatial data, conducting spatial analysis, and mapping;
- experience analyzing data in R;
- ability to analyze and report on complex ecological datasets; and
- experience summarizing technical information and technical reporting;

Willingness Statements:

- Must possess and maintain a valid British Columbia Class 5 driver's licence.
- Must be eligible to work in Canada.
- Must be physically able to carry equipment and supplies in difficult terrain.
- Willingness to conduct field work in all weather conditions and environments. This may include travel to remote areas by vehicle, or foot, overnight or extended stay in camp conditions and operation of a variety of equipment.
- Willingness to meet safety standards of WorkSafe BC.
- Must successfully complete security screening requirements of the BC Public Service, which may include a criminal records check, and/or Criminal Records Review Act (CRRRA) check, and/or enhanced security screening checks as required by the ministry.

Job Preferences

Preference may be given to candidates that have any of the following:

- experience developing wildlife habitat models;
- experience completing spatial analyses in R or other statistical programs;
- experience completing field studies and/or assessments for moose or grizzly bear;

- experience providing expert advice and interpretation on the application of wildlife/habitat management legislation, regulations, policies and best practices;
- experience developing relationships and collaborating with internal and external stakeholders and Indigenous Nations related to wildlife stewardship;
- experience conducting research and publishing scientific reports related to wildlife species management; and
- a professional accreditation as a Registered Professional Biologist (RP Bio) in B.C. with the College of Applied Biology.

Hours & Compensation

These are temporary positions based on a 35-hour week. Field shifts may vary in length and timing, and the successful candidates will be required to work longer days or possibly over weekends as required. Field work is a minor component of this position.

The positions can start the week of June 15th, 2022 and is a flexible term of up to 10-month (March 31st 2022) with possibility of extension. Start dates will be finalized with determination of the candidate's start date availability.

These positions are offered at a Bio24 level. Compensation is ~\$36.445/hr (\$2,551.15 biweekly).

Currently, provincial, and federal guidelines are shifting regarding programs, safe activities, and health recommendations due to COVID 19. This position is offered in good faith under today's known guidelines and is subject to change as required to meet additional recommendations.

How to Apply

Please send a cover letter and CV to Karine.Pigeon@gov.bc.ca with "Skeena Bio 24" in the subject line.

Please respond with an expression of interest and describe your education and related work experience.

Deadline for applications is May 31st, 2022 at 11:59 pm