Species at Risk & Biodiversity Sr. Field Technician – 4-months full-time

Coastal Action is a community-based charitable organization that addresses environmental concerns throughout the South Shore region of Nova Scotia, established in December 1993. On behalf of Coastal Action, we are looking for an experienced self-starter to fill our Senior Field Technician role on our Species at Risk & Biodiversity Team. Located in Mahone Bay, this role is a 4-month full-time position beginning April or early May 2024 and ending August 2024 (final date to be negotiated), with a possibility of extension.

Reporting to the Species at Risk & Biodiversity Team Lead, the Sr. Field Technician aims to achieve Coastal Action’s vision of a healthy environment for future generations. The Senior Field Technician exhibits strong analytical skills by assisting the Project Coordinator(s) in fieldwork, data entry, data analysis, research, report writing, and collaboration with other team members for developing projects. As part of the Coastal Action team, the Senior Field Technician exhibits proper representation of operational and safety-related policies and procedures both individually and as an example for junior team members. The Sr. Field Technician will assist with various tasks relating to Coastal Action’s American Eel, Snapping Turtle and Eastern Ribbonsnake, LaHave River restoration, Petite Rivière aquatic connectivity, and Atlantic Whitefish projects and contribute to the continued overall success of the organization.

Your Opportunity:

- Conduct a wide variety of hands-on fieldwork including, but not limited to: Eastern ribbonsnake surveys, turtle nesting surveys, fish and reptile handling, deploying and checking various trap types, water quality monitoring, zooplankton sampling, instream restoration activities, aquatic connectivity assessments, eDNA surveys, and electrofishing.
- Conduct biodiversity assessments: flora & fauna habitat feature identification, and communicate with landowners.
- Use strong organizational skills, complete daily preparations: review of daily job tasks, management, and inventory of field gear, checking weather reports, prepping field books, as well as advising Junior Field Technicians and summer students of daily plans.
- Review field notes and data as collected by junior team members for detail, accuracy, and completion.
- Conduct data collection, entry, and management via Excel, GIS and other platforms.
- Use strong Excel/GIS skills to create and maintain field data spreadsheets.
- Conduct and develop environmental outreach through social media, public presentations, and workshops.
- Assist other Coastal Action teams such as the Climate Change and Environmental Education Team, as time allows.
- Engage professionally with volunteers, other Coastal Action staff, the public and partner organizations.

Your Experience(s) and Education:

- Post-secondary education (enrolled in or completed) with a concentration in environmental science, biology, fisheries/wildlife management, or other related disciplines.
- Previous work experience with in-field data collection, public speaking and outreach.
• Strong research, project development, and plant and wildlife identification skills.
• Flexible and adaptable to a changing work schedule (including weekend and evening work).
• Self-motivated with the ability to work independently.
• Ability to work collaboratively with team members.
• Ability to perform and multi-task in challenging work environments and weather conditions.
• Strong organizational skills, attention to detail, and efficient time management.
• An aptitude for safe work practices.
• Strong oral and written communication skills.
• Proficiency in Office 365 applications, particularly Excel.
• A valid driver’s license and access to a vehicle for work purposes.
• Up-to-date certification in Standard First Aid + CPR Level A (or equivalent) by the start date of the contract.
• Additional skills and experiences considered assets include experience with species at risk, fish and/or reptile handling, using canoes and small motorboats, electrofishing surveys, fish habitat restoration, fish passage improvement, water quality monitoring, GIS skills, snorkelling, and zooplankton ID. Pleasure Craft Operator’s License, Paddle Canada Certification, Canadian Council on Animal Care, Backpack Electrofishing, or Boat Electrofishing Operator certification are also considered assets.
• Screening through the Child Abuse Registry and a criminal record check (to be completed following an offer of employment).
• Ability to lift 30 pounds.

How do we define success for your role?

The Sr. Field Technician will spend most of their time conducting fieldwork on a wide variety of projects. This will be an exciting, fast-paced, and dynamic role in which the successful candidate will gain experience with numerous environments and species. Fieldwork locations may include East River (Chester), the Petite Rivière watershed, and the LaHave River watershed.

Candidates must be comfortable working in remote locations, in and around water (lakes, streams, and wetlands) and performing physical tasks in challenging environments during all weather conditions. This position may require flexibility to work weekends and evenings. The successful candidate must also be willing to assist with other Coastal Action projects and outreach opportunities when needed.

Some office work including data entry, meetings, technical writing, and emails, will be required and will take place at Coastal Action’s office in Mahone Bay and/or remotely from the employee’s home.

Coastal Action is a driven team dedicated to providing education, research, and environmental services to the South Shore region. If you have what it takes to join our team, we would like to hear from you.

Coastal Action is an equal opportunity employer. We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Closing date: Thursday, February 29th, 2024
Resumes and accompanying cover letters identifying how you can contribute to Coastal Action’s success as our Species at Risk & Biodiversity Sr. Field Technician can be sent to apply@coastalaction.org. Please include “SAR&B Sr. Field Tech Application – [Your Name]” in the email subject line and attach your cover letter and resume as one PDF document.