

Field Technician I , II or III- Salt Lake City, UT -Multiple Positions

NEON, Inc. - Boulder, CO

Reporting to the Field Operations Manager, The Field Technician(s) will perform a variety of technical and scientific tasks.

Specifically, the Domain Manager is seeking to fill a lead role (see requirements for the Field Technician III).

The second role will focus on instrumentation expertise/knowledge with some experience in biological sampling. The second role may be hired at either the Field Technician I or Field Technician II level, depending on the basic requirements met, as described below.

Field Technician I

The Field Technician I will perform a variety of scientific and technical tasks. The Field Technician I is the biological sampling lead performing seasonal and periodic sampling activities. Seasonal field sampling is conducted with the assistance of temporary field crews. The Field Technician will provide guidance to temporary field crews and perform field and laboratory activities. This position reports to the Field Operations Manager.

The Field Technician I will also assist with routine maintenance, field calibration, and repair of scientific instruments and associated infrastructure as assigned by the Manager Field Operations.

Field Technician II

The Field Technician II will perform a variety of technical and scientific tasks. The Field Technician II is the technical lead performing routine maintenance, field calibration, and repair of scientific instruments and associated infrastructure. After initial instrument installation, the Field Technician II will have primary responsibility for instruments and infrastructure at tower/aquatic sites.

The Field Technician II will also assist with seasonal and/or periodic sampling activities. Seasonal field sampling is conducted with the assistance of temporary field crews. The Field Technician will provide guidance to temporary field crews and perform field and laboratory activities as assigned by the Manager Field Operations. This position reports to the Manager Field Operations.

Field Technician III

The Field Technician III will perform a variety of technical and scientific tasks. The Field Technician III is the shift lead performing and supervising routine maintenance, field calibration, and repair of scientific instruments and associated infrastructure. After initial instrument installation, the Field Technician III will have primary responsibility for instruments and infrastructure at {tower/aquatic} sites.

The Field Technician III will also supervise and assist with seasonal and/or periodic sampling activities. Seasonal field sampling is conducted with the assistance of temporary field crews. The Field Technician will provide guidance to temporary field crews and perform field and laboratory activities as assigned by the Field Operations Manager. This position reports to the Manager Field Operations Manager.

Location:

The Domain 15 Field Technician's primary work location is near Salt Lake City, UT. This position support sites in the Great Basin Domain and the Moab Site. Great Basin candidate sites are located at Onaqui-Ault Center, Murray Tower and Red Butte Canyon near Salt Lake City, UT. The Great Basin Domain includes parts of California, Utah, Oregon, Nevada, Idaho and Wyoming.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

Field Technician I

- Follow established, standardized field procedures for sample collection; record and verify accuracy of data from sample collection; process samples in the domain lab; and send samples to external analytical labs.
- Field sampling activities include the following observation and specimen collection activities:
 - Small mammal abundance
 - Small mammal-borne disease (i.e. Hantavirus)
 - Breeding bird population counts
 - Ground beetle abundance and diversity
 - Mosquito phenology, diversity, and disease (i.e. West Nile Virus)
 - Plant phenology observations
 - Soil and water sample collection for microbial diversity and biogeochemical analysis
 - Terrestrial and aquatic vegetation diversity and primary productivity measurements
 - Aquatic invertebrate and fish diversity and abundance
 - Stream morphology mapping
- Operate laboratory equipment including Wiley Mill, drying oven, analytical balance, centrifugal mill, and muffle furnace.
- Assist the Field Operations Manager with recruiting and training of seasonal field personnel.
- Provide technical guidance to seasonal field personnel.
- Perform plot establishment by locating plots with GPS navigation system, measuring and marking plots, and placing and setting traps.
- Assist the Field Operations Manager with field activity audits.
- Perform inspection and maintenance of laboratory and field equipment.
- Assist with routine inspection, calibration, maintenance and repair of atmospheric, micrometeorological, and water quality sensors on towers, soil arrays, streams and groundwater wells.
- Assist with routine maintenance to assure quality of data acquisition and connectivity equipment.
- Assist with inspection and routine maintenance of civil infrastructure, including boom arms, sensor mounts, towers, boardwalks, and instrument huts.
- Assist Manager Field Operations with Domain Support Facility activities (e.g., inventory and supply order management; field equipment maintenance and repair; and upkeep of office and lab areas).
- Record activities and completed work according to Field Operations protocol.
- Perform field assignments in a variety of conditions (e.g., weather, terrain, diverse assigned biomes).
- Carry, move and lift field supplies (pack weighing up to 40 lbs.) to assigned field site (diverse and uneven terrain).
- Follow NEON safety and Field Operations policy and procedures.

Field Technician II

- Perform routine inspection, calibration, maintenance and repair of atmospheric and aquatic sensors on towers, soil arrays, lakes, streams and groundwater wells.
- Perform basic testing, troubleshooting and operation of instruments and calibration equipment.
- Perform routine maintenance to assure quality of data acquisition and equipment connectivity.
- Perform inspection and routine maintenance of site infrastructure, including boom arms, sensor mounts, towers, boardwalks, and instrument huts.
- Perform inspection and maintenance of laboratory and field equipment.
- Follow established, standardized field procedures for periodic collection, handling, processing, verifying accuracy of, and shipping of field samples including dust, soil, and water samples.
- Operate laboratory equipment including Wiley Mill, drying oven, analytical balance, centrifugal mill, and ultra-low freezer.
- Assist the Field Operations Manager with materials planning and ordering
- Assist the Field Operations Manager with recruiting and training of seasonal field personnel.
- Provide technical guidance to seasonal field personnel.
- Assist with plot establishment by locating plots with GPS navigation system, measuring and marking plots, and placing and setting traps.
- Assist the Field Operations Manager with field activity audits.
- Follow established, standardized field procedures for sample collection; record and verify accuracy of data from sample collection; process samples in the domain lab; and send samples to external analytical labs.
- Field sampling activities include the following observation and specimen collection activities:
 - Small mammal abundance
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 - Plant phenology observations
 - Soil and water sample collection for microbial diversity and biogeochemical analysis
 - Terrestrial and aquatic vegetation diversity and primary productivity measurements
 - Aquatic invertebrate and fish diversity and abundance
 - Stream morphology mapping
- Record activities and completed work according to Field Operations protocol.
- Perform field assignments in a variety of conditions (e.g., weather, terrain, diverse assigned biomes).
- Carry, move and lift field supplies (pack weighing up to 40 lbs.) to assigned field site (diverse and uneven terrain).
- Follow NEON safety and Field Operations policy and procedures.

Field Technician III

- Assist Field Operations Manager in the supervision of personnel and activities coordinated from the field office.
- Act as manager in the absence of the Field Operations Manager.
- Assist the Field Operations Manager with recruiting and training of seasonal field personnel.
- Lead and perform routine inspection, calibration, maintenance and repair of atmospheric, micrometeorological, and water quality sensors on towers, soil arrays, streams and groundwater wells.

- Test, troubleshoot and operate instruments, calibration equipment and test fixtures.
- Lead and perform routine maintenance to assure quality of data acquisition and connectivity equipment.
- Lead and perform inspection and routine maintenance of civil infrastructure, including boom arms, sensor mounts, towers, boardwalks, and instrument huts.
- Lead and perform inspection and maintenance of laboratory and field equipment.
- Follow established, standardized field procedures for periodic collection, handling, processing, verifying accuracy of, and shipping of field samples including dust, soil, and water samples.
- Operate laboratory equipment including Wiley Mill, drying oven, analytical balance, centrifugal mill, and ultra-low freezer
- Assist with plot establishment by locating plots with GPS navigation system, measuring and marking plots, and placing and setting traps.
- Perform field activity audits.
- Follow established, standardized field procedures for sample collection; record and verify accuracy of data from sample collection; process samples in the domain lab; and send samples to external analytical labs.
- Assist the NEON Engineering Product Team with instrument installation and testing (approximately the first 6 months). Intensive hands-on tower, soil and aquatic instrument work.

Education:

- Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Sciences or related scientific discipline. Equivalent education and experience may be considered.

Required Experience, Knowledge, Skill, Other Qualifications:

Field Technician I

- Experience performing ecology and lab related activities.
- Experience performing scientific data entry and data management.

NEON will be selecting for specific and different experience and areas of expertise in the following:

- Ability and experience trapping and collecting blood samples from small mammals; or
- Ability to identify regionally specific birds (auditory and visual identification); or
- Ability to identify regionally specific plants.
- Ability to follow written and verbal instructions.
- High level of attention to detail and accuracy.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Strong work ethic and enthusiasm.
- Ability to perform in strenuous outdoor activity, carry field equipment and endure different outdoor field conditions including cold and wet winter weather and extreme heat.
- Depending on assignment, current and valid State issued driver's license with insurable Department of Motor Vehicle record (parking violations, minor driving offenses excluded) as determined by NEON's insurance provider.
- Depending on site assignments, ability to travel/ hike/walk on uneven terrain to work site.
- Ability and willingness to work varied field operations schedules (up to 12+ hours per day), including split-shift, part-time, pre-dawn early mornings, evenings and weekends.
- Ability to hike off-trail for long distances carrying field equipment, for extended periods of time.
- Ability to work in variable weather conditions, at remote locations, on difficult or hazardous terrain.

- Ability to ascend and descend multiple flights of stairs on instrument towers.
- Ability to work on towers ranging in height from 24 feet to 300 feet and at altitudes of up to 11,000 feet (depending on assigned Domain).
- Ability to withstand exposure to fumes, dust, and noise.

Field Technician II

- Two (2) or more years' experience maintaining scientific instruments (e.g. aquatic, meteorological or atmospheric sensors).
- Two (2) or more years' experience performing scientific data entry and data management.
- Ability to perform troubleshooting, calibration, and repair of scientific instrumentation.
- Ability to organize and execute multiple activities and priorities.
- Very effective problem solving skills and the ability to act on changing priorities in a fast paced dynamic environment.
- Very effective leadership skills and the ability to motivate others.
- Proven ability to ensure safety and operational standards are met.
- Willingness to adopt new technologies as needed.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite (e.g., Word, Excel).
- Ability to travel frequently within the local domain.

Field Technician III

- Three (3) or more years' experience maintaining scientific instruments (e.g. aquatic sensors);
- Three (3) or more years' experience performing scientific data entry and data management; and
- Two (2) years' experience leading and performing ecology related laboratory and field activities in multiple ecosystems.
- Ability to perform troubleshooting, calibration, and repair of scientific instrumentation.
- Ability to organize and execute multiple activities and priorities.
- Very effective problem solving skills and the ability to determine and act on changing priorities in a fast paced dynamic environment.
- Very effective leadership skills and the ability to motivate others.
- Displays good judgment in ensuring safety and operational standards are met.
- Ability and willingness to adopt new technologies as needed.

Preferred Experience:

- Previous experience leading and performing ecology related laboratory and field activities.
- Previous experience performing ecology related field activities in multiple ecosystem.
- Familiarity with performing field quality assurance procedures.
- Prior experience leading staff in field conditions.
- CPR/First Aid or Wilderness First Aid certification or training.
- Familiarity with field and laboratory safety guidelines.
- Familiarity with aquatic biological sampling and organisms.
- Experience working in streams or lakes of North America
- Familiarity with performing field quality assurance procedures
- CPR/First Aid or Wilderness First Aid certification, Backcountry hiking and or training

Skills and Abilities:

- Ability to lift up to 40 lbs;
- Kneeling, bending, stooping ; hand dexterity
- Ability to perform in strenuous outdoor activity, carry field equipment and endure different outdoor field conditions including cold and wet winter weather and extreme heat.

- Depending on assignment, current and valid State issued driver's license with clean Department of Motor Vehicle record (parking violations, minor driving offenses excluded) as determined by NEON's insurance provider.
- Depending on site assignments, ability to travel/ hike/walk on uneven terrain to work site.
- Ability to work effectively up to 12 hours per day and varied field operations schedules, including part-time and weekends.
- Ability to hike off-trail for long distances carrying field equipment, for extended periods of time.
- Ability to work in variable weather conditions, at remote locations, on difficult or hazardous terrain.
- Ability to ascend and descend multiple flights of stairs on instrument towers.
- Ability to work on towers ranging in height from 24 feet to 300 feet and at altitudes of up to 11,000 feet (depending on assigned Domain).
- Ability to withstand exposure to fumes, dust, and noise.
- Work environment is 80 – 90% outside;
- Possible West Nile-infected mosquitoes;
- Blood-borne pathogens;
- Paradichlorobenzene 99.90%;
- Small electric motors and 6V sealed lead-acid batteries;
- Through handling of mammals possible exposure to Hantavirus, Sin Nombre virus (SNV) and plague;
- Slip/trip;
- Animal bites and scrapes;
- Insects, plants (allergies and prickly things).

All positions must possess a valid US driver's license.

Must have permanent authorization for US employment.

NEON Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Women, Minorities, Veterans and Disabled Persons are encouraged to apply.