

Student Research Experience Opportunity: Herpetology

U.S. Geological Survey, National Wetlands Research Center

We anticipate hiring a current undergraduate student or recent B.A./B.S. graduate to work on various projects investigating amphibian and reptile ecology and population biology at sites in Louisiana and Texas. This position is temporary, and will begin as early as February and last until the end of the field season, which is usually around August.

We expect this Student Services Contractor to help with various project activities including but not limited to: nighttime and daytime surveys for amphibians and reptiles; daytime trips to service froglogging devices; accurate and neat data collection and data entry; data management and summaries; literature searches; field gear organization and maintenance.

The student must be able to travel on a regular basis, as much of our work involves overnight (Mon-Thurs) travel to east Texas and southeast Louisiana. Individual trip duration will vary from 1 night to 4 consecutive nights. The student will be exposed to year-round field conditions including extremes of temperature, humidity, and rain. In addition, field work involves long days/nights traversing through swamps, streams, and other wetlands. Many field work days are in excess of 8 hours, sometimes not returning to the hotel/Wetlands Center until 2 a.m. or later. Many field locations are in remote areas with snakes, alligators, bees, wasps, mosquitos, and spiders. The student must be comfortable with catching amphibians and reptiles (excluding venomous snakes and alligators). The student must also be comfortable riding in boats and canoes, and wading in waist-deep waters. Previous experience with identification of southeastern amphibians and reptiles by sight and call (frogs and toads) is helpful, but not required.

Qualifications

In order to be eligible, applicants must be currently enrolled as an undergraduate student OR have graduated with an undergraduate degree within the past year.

To apply for this position, please send the following information to Hardin Waddle via email (waddleh@usgs.gov):

1. A cover letter explaining your interest in the position
2. A resume
3. The contact information for two professional references

Please send this information in an attachment via email with the following subject line: Application - Student Research Opportunity. A single attachment is preferred.

Review of applications will be ongoing and continue until the position is filled.

For questions, contact Hardin Waddle (waddleh@usgs.gov)

Contact Person

Hardin Waddle

Contact eMail

waddleh@usgs.gov