

Wildlife Monitoring Technician (1-2 student positions conditional on funding)

About Blazing Star Environmental

We are a small and growing social enterprise. We are LGBTQ2IA+ owned and are committed to being an inclusive, equitable employer. We welcome all humans to our team and make every effort to identify and remove barriers to their success.

Our core values are to take part in creating a sustainable society where we live in balance with our fellow animals and plants. We support conservation organizations, governments and corporations that share this goal. Our primary focus is on plants and animals, but we partner with many other organizations to offer full-service solutions to your needs.

Working with us, you will feel empowered to make a difference, supported by your work family, and challenged to learn and develop new skills to further your career.

Reasons to Join Our Team

- We are an equitable employer
- We have a **TEAM** corporate culture and work together to achieve our goals
- We support the mental and physical well-being of our employees
- We blend advising sustainable development with support conservation research and stewardship
- We offer our employees 4-day work weeks for 6 months/year without a reduction in pay (~Oct 15 – Apr. 15)
- We will challenge you to grow and will support you as you learn
- We have fun!

Anticipated Start Date

As soon as possible.

Term of Employment

4 month full-time (37.5 hours/week), with possibility of extension, subject to the availability of funds and performance of the successful candidate.

Rate of Pay

\$16-\$20/hr commensurate with experience

Location

Variable. Office work is primarily virtual with occasional travel required to the Blazing Star Environmental office – 104 McLaughlin Blvd, Oshawa, ON. Primary field sites are in central and southwestern Ontario and field work at these sites occurs from mid-April to mid-Oct. Preference for candidates who live near or are willing to relocate to: Ottawa, Britt, London, and Chatham, Ontario.

Job Description

The Wildlife Monitoring Technician will support a variety of Blazing Star Environmental's projects.

The successful candidate will participate in one or more of the following:

- A strong team culture
- A major reptile conservation project in partnership with Henvey Inlet First Nation and Laurentian University
- Our Ontario-wide long-term western chorus frog community science monitoring program
- Detection probability study for SAR turtle in southwestern Ontario
- Reptile monitoring project at a National Wildlife Area (NWA) in southwestern Ontario
- Supporting farmers who participate in voluntary SAR stewardship initiatives
- Environmental Impact Studies
- So much more!

Specific Responsibilities

- Assist with post-construction reptile and vegetation monitoring project surrounding a wind energy facility in central Ontario
- Assist with reptile monitoring at a NWA in southwestern Ontario
- Assist with surveys for a turtle detection probability study in southwestern Ontario
- Assist with environmental impact studies
- Assist with Ecological Land Classification

- Conduct biological surveys for species at risk (including breeding bird surveys)
- Assist with educational hikes and presentations to the public
- Input data recorded in the field into spreadsheets and databases
- Communicate with partner organizations and clients
- Gather data from various sources to input into mapping software and complete GIS analyses
- Compile results into final reports for clients

Required Skills

- Demonstrated ability to work independently, as part of a team and to collaborate with multiple partners
- A positive attitude, even when working in challenging conditions
- Willingness to work long days and weekends when conducting fieldwork or outreach activities
- Comfortable working in remote wilderness areas
- Willingness to regularly travel throughout southern Ontario for fieldwork and outreach
- Punctual and dependable
- Excellent written and verbal communications skills
- Attention to detail
- Knowledge of biology and ecology including conservation biology, biodiversity, and species at risk issues
- Knowledge of Ontario's birds, plants and/or herpetofauna, including species identification and ecology
- Good organizational and problem-solving skills
- Proficiency with Microsoft PowerPoint, Excel and Word
- Willingness to safely work in cold water for extended periods when conducting herpetofauna surveys
- Have a valid G-class Ontario driver's licence
- Be legally entitled to work in Canada

Beneficial Attributes

- Certification in Ontario Wetland Evaluation System
- Experience capturing and handling animals
- Experience working with venomous snakes
- Ability to complete environmental impact studies
- Certification or experience in Ecological Land Classification
- Knowledge of GIS mapping software (QGIS preferred), Microsoft Access, and Microsoft Teams
- Knowledge of fish, bats, or invertebrates

Potential Learning Opportunities

- Experience conducting a reptile mark-recapture study
- Experience conducting a reptile radio-telemetry study
- Experience conducting Ecological Land Classification
- Experience writing a property management plan
- Experience creating formal bids for environmental consulting projects
- Experience writing government grants

This position is conditional on funding and the successful candidate must be eligible for the following ECO Canada Co-op program:

ECO Canada co-op program: (<https://www.eco.ca/swilp/studentquiz.aspx>)

- Eligibility:
 - Students enrolled at a university or college in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art or Math (STEAM) and Business
 - Canadian Citizens, Permanent Residents, or students with Refugee status
 - There is no age restriction, and you don't have to be fully enrolled formally in your school's co-op program

How to Apply

Please apply on our website (<https://www.blazingstar.ca/join-our-team>) or by e-mailing your resume, eligibility checklist and 1-page cover letter to Jane Wlodek, info@blazingstar.ca, by 11:59 pm on May 18, 2023. Please include Wildlife Monitoring Technician in the subject line.

Apply soon, as applications will be reviewed as received until the position is filled.

Jane Wlodek
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