FULL-TIME SALMON ID & FIELDWORK COORDINATION POSITION

AVAILABLE AS EITHER A 6- OR 12-MONTH POSITION

THE PROJECT(S)

The Salmon Watersheds Lab at Simon Fraser University (SFU) is seeking, first and foremost, a full-time (35 hrs/week) Technician for 6-months beginning in the Fall to identify and label videos of adult salmon fish passing through a video trap box. This work is part of the Koeye Salmon Ecosystem Study, an ongoing collaborative research and monitoring initiative on the Koeye River on the Central Coast of BC, alongside partners from the Heiltsuk Nation, the Hakai Institute, and the Wild Salmon Center. The video ID work will feed into a training dataset for a computer-vision modelling initiative that seeks to automate the enumeration of adult salmon passing through the Koeye weir, supporting the Heiltsuk Nation to implement adaptive, in-season management strategies.

Additionally, depending on applicant interest, there may be opportunities over this period to engage in lab work within the broader Salmon Watersheds Lab (SWL), such as diet sample processing and otolith sectioning and aging.

This position is available as either a 6-month position focused on video ID work, or a 12-month position where the latter half of the role would involve fieldwork coordination duties and the opportunity to go in the field and participate in SWL projects. The SWL operates field projects collecting biotic and abiotic data from salmon watersheds across three broad regions: Vancouver Island, the Central Coast and the Thompson-Nicola watershed in the Interior of BC. Fieldwork coordination involves pre-fieldwork preparations such as equipment purchasing, permitting, and safety and logistics planning alongside SWL staff and students leading fieldwork projects.

The successful candidate for the 6-month position will be proficient in adult salmonid identification or capable of learning quickly, with strong data entry and management skills, attention to detail, and the ability to work at a computer for extended periods of time. A successful candidate for the 12-month offering of this position would, additionally, have experience with fieldwork in the waters of British Columbia; the equipment required and methodologies used in fish and water sampling, and the safety and logistics considerations for such activities.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES (6-MONTH POSITION)

- Learn and maintain existing protocols for data entry and management;
- Identify adult salmonids from videos;
PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES (12-MONTH POSITION)

- Report on animal use from previous field seasons in alignment with Canadian Council on Animal Care guidelines. Apply for amendments to old protocols or submit new applications for the upcoming field season;
- Apply for Provincial and Federal permits applications;
- Researching and purchasing fieldwork equipment;
- Field Safety Plan and Code of Conduct development. Briefing of fieldwork teams on these protocols;
- Data organization and management.

DESired SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Excellent organizational ability and attention to detail;
- Ability to take initiative and deliver on tasks without direct supervision;
- Experience using Microsoft Excel;
- Experience with adult salmon identification;
- Ability to work collaboratively as part of an ecological research team
- Experience with conducting research, statistical analysis, scientific writing, and planning/logistics for fieldwork are a plus.

OTHER INFORMATION

There is only one position available, for either a 6-month or 12-month term, starting early Fall, 2021. Compensation is in the range of $18-23/hr, dependent on experience and the length of the position applied for. There is potential for longer-term extension based on performance and funding. This position is made possible with support from the BC Salmon Recovery and Innovation Fund and Department of Fisheries and Oceans. For fieldwork activities, funds are available to cover the full costs of research and travel expenses. In light of Covid-19, working remotely is an option. Please indicate your ideal start date and work arrangement in your application.

TO APPLY

Applicants should email a CV (in PDF format, including contact information for two professional references) and a brief cover letter addressing your relevant experience and why you're interested in the position to both: watlas@wildsalmoncenter.org and adminjwm@sfu.ca. Please indicate with the subject title of your email and in your application, whether you are applying for the 6-month or 12-month position, i.e. title your email: "Salmon ID and Fieldwork Coordination Position Application—...-Month Position".

Applications will close on August 20, 2021. Please note that only applicants proceeding to the next round will be contacted regarding the outcome of their application.