

Natural Heritage Trust Employment Announcement

Title: Hourly Fish and Wildlife Technician
Agency: Natural Heritage Trust
Agency Assignment: NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Location: Massena, NY
Compensation: \$19/hr
Work Schedule: Full-time, 37.5 hrs/wk; Mon-Fri; 7-8 months/year, April to October typical

Organizational Backgrounds

The Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) is a New York State (NYS) public benefit corporation. Established in 1968, the NHT's mission is to receive and administer gifts, grants and other funds to further public programs for parks, conservation and historic preservation purposes of the State of New York. The NHT is governed by a four-member Board of Directors comprised of the Commissioner of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, the Chair of the State Council of Parks, the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Secretary of State.

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) conserves, improves and protects New York's natural resources and environment and prevents, abates, and controls water, land and air pollution, in order to enhance the health, safety and welfare of the people of NYS and their overall economic and social well-being.

The mission of DEC's Division of Fish and Wildlife is to serve the interests of current and future generations of New Yorkers by using our collective skills, in partnership with the public, to describe, understand, manage, and perpetuate a healthy and diverse assemblage of fish, wildlife, and ecosystems.

The selected candidate for this position will be an employee of the NHT with work conducted under the supervision of DEC Division of Fish and Wildlife in Region 6.

Description of Duties

The Hourly Fish and Wildlife Technician helps implement the St. Lawrence Habitat Management Project. From early April until late October or November of each year, under the supervision of the project manager, this position will assist with the operation and maintenance of several Habitat Improvement Projects along the St. Lawrence River in St. Lawrence County, NY. This position also supports management activities at the 4,000-acre Wilson Hill Wildlife Management Area, and at various ecological or recreational-based amenities located in the St. Lawrence-FDR power project and vicinity. These activities include outdoor work, sometimes in extreme or inclement weather, and indoor office/lab/janitorial/maintenance shop-type assignments.

Specific Duties:

- Surveys to monitor habitat condition and use by various bird species, other wildlife, and fish, as well as data entry and reporting.
- Operating small boats for fisheries surveys and to access island habitats.

- Physical labor to maintain and operate habitat improvement features such as fish passages, loon rafts, water control structures, boundary signs, and general habitat management, as well as clearing beaver dams and removing trees, brush, and rocks.
- Herbicide application to control invasive weeds (certified pesticide applicators are preferred, but training can be provided).
- Operating tractors and mowers to maintain grassland bird nesting habitat, road maintenance, and lawn and parking area maintenance.
- Miscellaneous maintenance and cleaning of project buildings, vehicles, and boats, and trail maintenance.
- Assisting Region 6 fish and wildlife staff with program activities such as wildlife and fisheries population assessments, habitat surveys, waterfowl banding, nuisance wildlife control, and public access monitoring and control, as needed, within the Project boundary.

Qualifications

Required:

- A bachelor's degree in Fisheries and/or Wildlife, Natural Resources, or related field.
- Some experience in the field of fish and/or wildlife management (volunteer or paid experience).
- Ability to lift and carry fish, equipment, or other materials weighing more than 50 pounds, in varied terrain and in inclement weather; and the ability to walk in waders through water, or in uplands more than 3 miles in uneven terrain to reach survey locations.
- Ability to occasionally work early in the morning, late in the evening or at night, and infrequently on weekends.
- A valid Driver's License is required.
- The ability to swim.

Preferred:

- Ability to identify NY birds by sight and sound, and NY fish by sight.
- An approved Boating Safety Certificate (if none, will be required to obtain one upon employment)
- Tractor or heavy equipment operation experience.
- Certified Pesticide Applicator.
- ATV/UTV and firearms experience.
- Hunter Safety Education Course, including Trapper Education.

Additional Comments

NHT is committed to building and encouraging an inclusive workplace that strives for respect and promotes and values diversity. We believe that organizations that are diverse in age, gender identity, race, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, ethnicity, and perspective, or any other trait that makes an individual unique, are proven to be better organizations. Please consider joining the team as we work together to build a welcoming workplace where employees recognize their unique characteristics, skills, and experiences are respected, valued, and celebrated.

How to Apply

Applicants must submit Cover Letter, Resume, and 3 references via email: michael.morgan@dec.ny.gov

Deadline: COB, 19 May 2024

Contact: Michael Morgan
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
michael.morgan@dec.ny.gov

It is the policy of the State of New York and NHT to provide for and promote equal opportunity employment, compensation, and other terms and conditions of employment without unlawful discrimination on the basis of age, race, color, religion, disability, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, veteran or military service, member status, marital status, domestic violence victim status, genetic predisposition or carrier status, arrest and/or criminal conviction record, or any other category protected by law, unless based upon a bona fide occupational qualification or other exception. The NHT is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

Pursuant to Executive Order 161, no State entity, as defined by the Executive Order, is permitted to ask, or mandate, in any form, that an applicant for employment provide their current compensation, or any prior compensation history, until such time as the applicant is extended a conditional offer of employment with compensation. If such information has been requested from you before such time, please contact the Office of Employee Relations at (518) 474-6988 or via email at info@oer.ny.gov.