

Biological Science Technician (Native bees and Plants): ND, SD, and MN

1 Field Assistant Position with USGS, Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center, Jamestown, ND

Duration: May through September, 2018. Both start and end dates are flexible in order to accommodate current students as well as recently graduated students seeking longer-term appointments.

Projects: Native bee health and ecology, plant-pollinator interactions

Salary: \$15.13 - \$20.96/hr, depending on qualifications. Housing is provided.

Description

We are seeking one Biological Science Technician to fill a position in support of a native bee and honey bee research project led by the US Geological Survey at Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center. The project goals are to determine how land-use conditions influence bee health and to quantify floral resources used by native bees and honey bees. Duty stations for this position include North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota.

Knowledge and Skills Required for the Position

- This position requires general knowledge of the natural history of native bee populations in the northern Great Plains, so individuals with this specific knowledge are especially encouraged to apply. However, individuals with a general knowledge of insect taxonomy and a strong desire to learn about pollinators are also encouraged to apply.
- Familiarity with bee-capture techniques, such as sweep netting.
- Experience pinning and cataloguing invertebrates
- Some familiarity with the flora of the northern Great Plains, including native and non-native species and agricultural crops, is preferred.
- Must be able to carry field equipment (up to 40 pounds) and spend long hours walking through uplands, and to drive field vehicles.
- Must possess the patience and attention-to-detail to spend hours in a laboratory environment identifying bees using such tools as taxonomic keys and microscopes.
- Proficiency with entering data in Excel.
- Ability to communicate with a wide variety of people, including other biological science technicians, scientists, land owners, and agricultural producers.
- Ability to work both independently and with others, as well as to companionably share living quarters with small groups of other technicians
- Must possess a valid state driver's license.

To Apply

All applicants must be a current university student or a recent graduate (that is, one that graduated within the 12 months prior to May 2018). Send your cover letter and resume, with at least 3 references, to Jill Shaffer (jshaffer@usgs.gov) by midnight January 29, 2018. Please clearly indicate your actual or anticipated graduation date and available start date and end date (if applicable) in your cover letter. Interviews may be conducted before the application deadline, so consider applying before the deadline.

Jill Shaffer, USGS, Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center, 8711 37th St SE, Jamestown, ND 58401, jshaffer@usgs.gov, phone: (701) 253-5547