



Friends of Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge

Position Description

Invasive Plant Technician-Seasonal

POSITION TITLE: Invasive Plant Technician- Seasonal (Technician)

LOCATION: Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge, Sherwood, Oregon

POSITION SUMMARY:

Based at Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge), the Invasive Plant Technician (Technician) will be responsible for assisting Refuge staff in the formulation and refinement of an invasive plant mapping protocol and the treatment of invasive plants species where needed. The Refuge focuses on restoring habitat for a diversity of native fish and wildlife species, while continuing to provide a place where people can connect, enjoy and experience nature. The quick and drastic changes in the surrounding community as a result of development is compelling the refuge to ensure there is baseline data on invasive plant species, which will assist in maintaining and advancing the refuge's restoration goals.

The work will consist largely of collecting invasive species data in a field setting using GPS units. The technician will spend approximately 80% of their time outdoors walking grids and transects while identifying native and invasive plant cover. This position is intended to provide direct support for a USFWS Director's Fellow project taking place on the Refuge during summer 2018. The Technician will assist the Director's Fellow in testing invasive plant mapping protocols with opportunities to provide input on methods.

The work will be conducted on property owned or managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and as such, the Technician will be required to read and abide by the 'Ethics Guide for the Department of the Interior Employees.' Violations of the Ethics Guide, Service policy, or Refuge specific regulations/procedures are a violation of the contract and grounds for termination. The Technician will comply with security checks, clearances, and training to gain access to Government owned and operated facilities, equipment, and computer systems. Failure to comply with, or pass, mandatory security checks, training, and/or necessary clearances will be grounds for termination. Drug testing may be required for this position.

As an employee of the Friends of the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge, the Technician will be governed by the Friend's Employee Handbook. As outlined in that Handbook, the Friends' Board retains the authority to retain or terminate the employee.

The Technician reports to the Board of Directors of FOR through a member designated by the Board President. This board member will coordinate with refuge staff to determine overall program guidelines and goals.

Job Category: Full time/Temporary, 40 hours/week.

Location: Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge, Sherwood, Oregon. Office space and support will be provided by the Refuge.

Duration/Pay: Begins May 2018 and will continue through September 2018. Pay will be hourly at \$15/hour and the employee will be paid once at the end of each month.

Line of Responsibility: Reports to the Friends of Tualatin River Refuge (FOR) Restoration Chair and FOR Board. Directed on a daily basis by the Biologist and Biological Science Technician.

Job Tasks:

80% - Outdoor field time conducting invasive plant surveys and plant data collection. 10% Other field work as needed including spraying herbicide using a backpack sprayer, removing invasive plants using a variety of tools including gas powered brush cutters, and other habitat management activities.

10% - Office time recording field activities, writing short reports etc.

Specific Duties:

- Collect spatial data on invasive plant abundance using a variety of survey methods
- Conduct habitat enhancement work as needed in close cooperation with Refuge staff
- Keep Refuge records, files, and reports on project work,
- Operate Refuge hand and power tools and other equipment,
- Obtain Oregon State supervised pesticide trainee license, and apply herbicide for invasive plant control. Fees paid by FOR.
- Maintain good relations with and provide support to the Friends Board and members, Refuge staff, and volunteers.

Skills and Qualifications:

The qualified candidate should possess a knowledge or background in the natural sciences and natural resources field and develop an enthusiasm for the mission, goals, and values of the Refuge and Friends Group. The position requires strong interpersonal skills, including the ability to work effectively with a wide range of people as well as independently in an outdoor setting. The ideal candidate should possess, or exhibit the ability to learn the following:

- 1) Knowledge of the flora, fauna, and ecological processes of the Willamette Valley region.
- 2) An understanding of integrated weed control strategies, adaptive management, and Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR).
- 3) An ability to obtain a supervised pesticide trainee applicator's license in Oregon.
- 4) The ability to work independently, outdoors in inclement weather, under physically demanding conditions; an ability to complete work in a timely and efficient manner; and an ability to be flexible, adaptable, and maintain a positive attitude.
- 5) Utilize basic GPS and mapping skills.
- 6) Prior experience using a variety of field equipment (ATV, tractor, power brush cutters, mowers, etc.), herbicide application, GPS data collection, and GIS software would be advantageous for the position.
- 7) Maintain a valid state driver's license.
- 8) Maintain a working relationship with the staff of the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge that allows the technician to carry out these duties under their supervision and on property managed by the Refuge. If the Refuge manager indicates that the technician will not be supervised by Refuge staff or be allowed to work in the property, the Friends may terminate the employment.
- 9) Other duties as assigned.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

The position requires outdoor and office. Temperature and weather extremes may be encountered in the performance of outdoor work. The Technician is expected to conduct duties in a safe and orderly manner so as to not endanger self, fellow workers, visitors or property. The Technician will be required to follow the established Friends' dress code.

COMPENSATION: This position is paid hourly and is classified as temporary and only provides benefits required by law.

Please submit Resumes and References by end of business on April 17, 2018 via email to

Info@FriendsofTualatinRefuge.org

Subject: Invasive Plant Technician