



Southwest Ecological Monitoring Technician

Job title: SW Ecological Monitoring Technician

Location: Santa Fe, NM

Status: Seasonal, full-time, June 3rd – August 23rd, 2024

Compensation: \$18.91/hour

Application deadline: Friday, February 9th, 2024

The Forest Stewards Guild (the Guild) is hiring two Ecological Monitoring Technicians to support field data collection and data entry for the Guild's Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP) projects. The technicians will be based out of our Santa Fe, New Mexico office and will travel to field sites using a Guild vehicle. Technicians will work 32-40 hours per week for 10-12 weeks from June 3rd – August 23rd, 2024 (exact dates are somewhat flexible depending on individual candidate availability). This position offers a unique opportunity to work on the Guild's collaborative forestry and watershed projects and engage with a diverse array of project partners, including other local non-governmental organizations, federal and state agencies, and private land managers, to monitor forest and watershed health. In addition to field monitoring and data input, Guild staff will support technicians with other conservation focused career development opportunities depending on the candidate's interests.

About the Guild

The Guild is a national organization of foresters and allied natural resource professionals dedicated to practicing and promoting responsible forestry as a means of sustaining the integrity of forest ecosystems and the human communities dependent upon them. The Guild has over 700 members, over half of whom are professionals that manage over 42 million acres of forestland in the United States and Canada. The Guild maintains regional offices in New Mexico, Maine, Minnesota, North Carolina, Oregon, Colorado, and Wisconsin.

About the Position

The Ecological Monitoring Technician will support the work of the Guild to promote collaborative land management in the southwest. The monitoring technician will play a key role on the Guild team to promote resilient ecosystems and document forest and watershed change over time. The technician's primary activities will include:

- Collect field data from forest monitoring plots across multiple forest types in southern Colorado and northern New Mexico. Measurements include stand metrics, fuel loads, vegetation ID, photo points, and native pollinator surveys.
- Monitor riparian corridor health utilizing multiple methods, including stream temperature sensors, remote cameras, photo points, and water sampling.
- Camp in the field for two-to-four-night hitches with a small crew (2-3 people) while practicing safe and ecologically responsible field behavior.

- Enter field data into established databases.
- Maintain field gear (including GPS units, cameras, field guides, and measurement tools).
- Support Guild staff with communicating to project partners about ecological monitoring.
- Other activities and training that align with technician's interests and career goals.

Position Requirements

The ideal candidate will have an interest in forestry, natural resources, or conservation and have experience in southwestern forest ecosystems. Most of this work will be performed outdoors. Situational awareness is important for crew safety and hiking over varied terrain while carrying monitoring equipment will be necessary. Travel on unpaved roads in inclement weather and camping (up to 4 days at a time) may be required depending on monitoring site locations. Candidates should have a valid driver's license. Technicians will be responsible for their own lodging and living expenses.

Minimum Qualifications:

- High school diploma and experience in forestry and/or ecology-based fieldwork
- Strong organizational skills and attention to detail
- Clear verbal and written communication skills
- Ability to work independently and with a team
- Experience using a map and/or GPS to navigate
- Experience working and camping outdoors

Preferred Qualifications:

- Completed college coursework in forestry, ecology, or a related field
- First aid and CPR certifications
- Knowledge of southwest forests, including vegetation ID and field safety
- Experience conducting ecological monitoring
- Experience with Microsoft Excel, ArcGIS Pro, and Survey123

Additional Information

The position pays \$18.91 per hour. Paid holiday and leave benefits are accrued based on the percentage of full-time hours worked. The Forest Stewards Guild is an equal opportunity employer. The Guild is dedicated to providing an open, transparent, and just organization and workplace. We strive for clear, open, and kind communication and are committed to recruiting, hiring, mentoring, and supporting practitioners from underrepresented communities. We are dedicated to building a work culture that recognizes the inherent value of our employees, supports a healthy work-life balance, and provides an environment that supports personal and professional growth.

Contact Us

Interested individuals should email a cover letter, resume (or CV), and three references as a single pdf file to Collin McElroy (collin@forestguild.org) by Friday, February 9th at 11:59 p.m. MST. Please include "SW Monitoring Technician Application" in the email subject line.