



Amphibian Biological Technician

Background: IAP World Services, Inc. has an excellent opportunity for a Biological Technician to perform work for IAPWS under contract to the USGS National Wetlands Research Center in Lafayette, LA. IAP World Services is the on-site technical services contractor and supports NWRC by hiring and managing qualified individuals to support NWRC's research projects.

Position Description: The objective of this work is the continued long-term monitoring of amphibian populations in the Atchafalaya Basin of south-central Louisiana to determine population trends and underlying factors potentially influencing observed trends. There will be occasional trips to conduct similar sampling in study areas outside of the Lafayette, LA area.

Visual encounter and vocalization surveys for frogs and toads are conducted primarily in the Atchafalaya River Basin with surveys beginning after sunset and lasting well into the night. The successful applicant will be required to capture frogs by hand and identify them by sight and call during these surveys. While experience in this task is desirable, it is not required, so long as the applicant is willing to learn these identification skills and is enthusiastic in their attempts to capture all frogs observed. This individual must be comfortable performing these surveys nightly (M-Th) in usually hot and humid conditions in the company of biting insects, venomous snakes and alligators. The individual should be in good physical condition as much of each night will be spent walking around in soft soils and shallow waters. An enthusiastic and highly motivated, well organized individual with demonstrated accurate data collection and communication skills, and the ability to work cooperatively with others is desirable. Safety is a high priority, and the individual must abide by all safety precautions and considerations in place and be willing to exercise good safety judgment at all times. The field component will consume most work weeks, but the individual will also be required to perform other tasks, such as data entry and field equipment maintenance.

Requirements: The position requires a bachelor's degree in a biologically related field and research experience with an ecological, botanical, or soil topic. Field experience in wetlands or similar habitats is a plus, including:

- Field experience and identification of southeastern U.S. herpetofauna, especially frogs by sight and call
- Working knowledge of motorboats and ability to operate them
- Navigation skills including the use of GPS
- Ability to summarize field and laboratory data into tabular, graphic, or narrative form using appropriate computer software (e.g. Word, Excel)

Application: Individuals with the above skills and experience should apply online at www.iapws.com in the Scientific category.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

We promote a drug-free work environment. Women, minorities, and the disabled are encouraged to apply.