

Elk Research Technicians

Temporary/Seasonal Position

Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks

<https://fwp.mt.gov/conservation/wildlife-management/elk/research>

Job Description:

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks is hiring 2 research technicians as part of a collaborative elk research project with the University of Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit. This research will be used to monitor elk populations and better understand elk population demographics in northwest Montana. These technicians will be responsible for assisting with clover-trapping elk. Technician duties will include routine setting, baiting, and checking of clover traps, safely handling and administering chemical immobilization drugs for GPS collaring and collecting other biological samples, fitting vaginal implant transmitters, monitoring GPS collars for mortality signals, and conducting mortality site investigations. In addition, duties will require effective communication with private landowners, agency personnel, and coworkers. Travel is primarily by vehicle but may require ATV or snowmobile. Technicians should expect to experience cold winter conditions, assist with transporting traps by hand that weigh up to 300lbs, work extended or irregular hours, and assist with other research projects when necessary. Housing will be provided in the Trout Creek, MT area which is 2 hours northwest of Missoula, MT or 2.5 hours east of Spokane, WA. The position runs from December 16, 2024 to March 14, 2025, with two weeks off over the holidays (December 23 – January 3).

Location: Trout Creek, Montana

Salary: \$20.44/hr

Qualifications:

Interested applicants should have experience with capturing wildlife, preferably capturing ungulates using clover traps. Interested applicants must have experience safely operating 4WD vehicles, ATVs, and snowmobiles in rough, mountainous terrain. Applicants must be able to regularly carry heavy weight. Applicants must have strong communication skills with the ability to interact well with coworkers and be able to work independently or as a team in remote settings. Applicants should be organized, able to follow a rigid protocol, and record detailed data in a field setting. Preferred candidates will have prior experience handling deer or elk. Qualified candidates will also have a background in wildlife biology, ecology, or other related science.

TO APPLY: Submit a cover letter detailing wildlife capture and trapping experience and other relevant qualifications, a resume, and three professional or academic references in a single PDF document. Send applications to: Jesse DeVoe at jesse.devoe@mt.gov with the subject line containing "Wildlife Technician – [your last name]". Deadline for application is September 20, 2024. Review of applications will occur as they are received until the deadline.

Application Deadline: Sep 20

Start Date: Dec 16

Jesse DeVoe

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