Monarch Joint Venture Job Posting

Position: Field Technician, South and Midwest US Monarch Butterfly Habitat Monitoring (3 positions)

Job Type: Temporary, full-time

Compensation: $600/week

Application Deadline: April 9, 2021; applications will be considered on a rolling basis

Travel required: Yes

Position Summary: Join the growing team of the Monarch Joint Venture, a nonprofit dedicated to conserving the monarch butterfly migration across North America. We are hiring three field technicians to study monarch butterfly breeding habitat on conservation lands in 2021. Positions will be offered upon finalization of a funding agreement that supports this work.

- **Project 1:** Upon hire – approximately May 24, 2021. Technicians may transition into Project 2 after Project 1 completion if desired. Includes fieldwork in the south-central US (e.g., Texas, Oklahoma). Extensive travel will be required, and overnight stays will be primarily camping, with occasional hotels or short-term rentals.

- **Project 2:** Approximately May 24 – Sept. 24, 2021. Includes fieldwork in the Midwest (e.g., Wisconsin, Minnesota). Field housing will be provided, mostly likely in southern Minnesota, and overnight travel (primarily camping) will be required multiple nights each week.

Positions are full time, seasonal, approximately 40 hours per week. Field technicians must be able to commit to the timelines described in Project 1 or 2 above, drive long distances, and live away from home during project dates.

Field vehicle, fuel, and lodging costs are covered by the project. Food and additional personal travel costs are the responsibility of the technicians. Field season lodging may include a variety of camping, houses (e.g., refuge bunkhouses), hotels, or short-term rentals described above. When interacting with others such as biologists, landowners, volunteers, or in public spaces, technicians will be expected to follow CDC recommendations on preventing the spread of communicable disease (e.g., limited group size, facial coverings).

Responsibilities:

(A) **Monitor restored conservation lands (75%)**  
Teams of two field technicians will drive to pre-selected sites to perform vegetation surveys. They will describe features of each site, count monarch host plants (milkweeds) in quadrats, identify all forb species in the survey area, quantify blooming plants, examine milkweeds for monarch eggs and larvae, and count adult monarchs. Specific duties include:

1. Training and field season preparation (5%). Learn standard operating procedures for site visits.
2. Field data collection (60%). Visit sites and collect data. Manage calendar of site visits and maintain contact with MJV staff and landowners.
3. Data entry and field logistics management (10%). Maintain, organize, and enter field data on tablets/computers (can be provided by MJV) throughout the season. Develop travel schedule and secure lodging as the season progresses with guidance and direction from the field supervisor. Proof data entries at the end of the field season.

(B) **Train others in the Integrated Monarch Monitoring Program (IMMP) protocols (20%)**. Technicians will assist in training local conservation staff and volunteers to conduct monitoring and enter data following IMMP protocols. Training may include informal field excursions and/or workshops in conjunction with online tutorials.
1. **Coordination and facilitation (5%).** Communicate with local conservation staff and volunteer leadership to identify groups and individuals to participate in IMMP.

2. **Training and communication (20%).** Organize and instruct training workshops, and communication with local coordinators, conservation partners, and volunteers about training details. Follow up with trained individuals periodically throughout the season and help organize volunteer survey schedules if needed.

(C) **Additional duties as assigned (5%).**
Conduct additional duties related to this field study as the need arises. Tasks may include, but are not limited to, contacting site managers for additional management data, organizing or generating media content, or preparing data or data collection tools for future use.

**Qualifications**

*Essential Skills:* Field technicians must have experience in the fields of biology, botany, wildlife, or another related field and experience identifying native prairie forbs in the Midwest and/or southern US. Technicians must be able to work independently and also collaborate closely with a partner, drive long distances, and collect plant and insect data in direct sunlight, high temperatures, and buggy conditions. They must be comfortable interacting with private landowners and available to spend up to several nights a week car-camping in rural areas. The positions require excellent verbal communication skills, attention to detail, and the ability to enter data accurately onto a mobile device and computer.

*Desired Skills:* Experience identifying insects and their larval instars. Knowledge of North American milkweed species (ability to recognize common and uncommon species in the field). Experience with ArcGIS. Valid driver’s license and clean driving record.

**To apply:** Send a cover letter, resume/CV, and contact information for two references together in one PDF document to Rita Morris, rita@monarchjointventure.org by **April 9, 2021**. Include the Project(s) for which you are applying in the email subject line. Applicants may submit a single application to be considered for both positions. In your cover letter, please expand on your experience most relevant to this position, your leadership skills, and experience traveling for field work or managing similarly complex schedules. Contact Rita Morris with questions and to submit your application.

**Equal Opportunity Employment:** The Monarch Joint Venture (MJV) is an equal opportunity employer. As such, MJV offers equal employment opportunities without regard to race, color, gender, religion, age, nationality, social or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, pregnancy, disability, veteran status or any other characteristic protected by law. These opportunities include all terms, conditions, and privileges of employment, including but not limited to recruiting, hiring, job placement, training, compensation, benefits, discipline, advancement, and termination. All employees are expected to adhere to this policy.

The Monarch Joint Venture is an at-will employer.

All persons hired will be required to verify identity and eligibility to work in the United States and to complete the required employment eligibility verification form upon hire.

The conservation of monarchs and our environment requires ‘all hands on deck’. As a national leader in monarch conservation, we are committed to working to bridge the barriers across our society for access to clean air, clean water, and safe outdoor environments to live, learn, play, and just be. To achieve our mission, we must foster diversity, equity, and inclusion for all to engage in this work and the enjoyment of nature. We will work to address the biases within ourselves and the inequities within our organization and the network of organizations committed to conservation. We commit to learning, listening, and taking action to build a healthier planet and a more just world for people, pollinators, and other living beings.