Monarch Joint Venture Job Posting

Position Title: Field Technician, Central Flyway Monarch Butterfly Habitat Monitoring (4 positions)
Temporary, full-time
Compensation: $600-650/week depending upon experience
Application Deadline: 2/12/2020
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 two teams of 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.

Positions are full time, approximately March 22 - September 24, and approximately 40 hours per week. Field technicians must be able to commit to the full monitoring season, drive long distances, and live away from home during project dates.

Technicians will start in southeast Texas and travel to the Midwest as the season progresses. Field vehicle, fuel, and lodging costs are covered by the project. Food and additional personal travel costs are the responsibility of technicians. Field season lodging may include a variety of hotels, houses (e.g., refuge bunkhouses), or camping throughout the sampling region. When interacting with others such as biologists, landowners, or volunteers, 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 caterpillars, 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 (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 Integrated Monarch Monitoring Program protocols (20%) Technicians will assist in training local conservation staff and volunteers to conduct monitoring and enter data following Integrated Monarch Monitoring Program (IMMP) protocols. Training may include informal field excursions and/or workshops.

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
communicate 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 February 12, 2020. Include the entire Position Title in the email subject line. Your cover letter should indicate your interest in the position(s) and how it fits into your educational or career goals. 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 committed to supporting and expanding the diversity, equity, and inclusion within STEM, and therefore especially encourages BIPOC applicants and/or applicants from other underrepresented groups.

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.