Posting title: Applications programmer/database technician
Agency: University of Montana
Location: Flathead Lake Biological Station, USA
Job Category: Temporary/Seasonal Position
Salary: Hourly rate
Start Date: May 20, 2019
Last Date to Apply: April 26, 2019
Website: https://flbs.umt.edu/newflbs/

Description:
The University of Montana’s Flathead Lake Biological Station (FLBS) is seeking one technician to assist with research on a potential phone app/desktop application for monitoring Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). The broader goal of the project is to help in the development of a national AIS environmental DNA (eDNA) database. The technician will help in initial planning, development of potential use cases for the application/database, and testing of available phone apps and public databases from different state and federal agency AIS monitoring programs. Testing will include comparing the reliability and ease of data retrieval and entry into the public databases using a phone and desktop data entry/access approaches. The technician will also have the opportunity to work in a multi-disciplinary team to help design and be responsible for some component of the project whether applications or database programming related. The technician will lead on a report (with help from other team members) that describes the strengths and weaknesses of the different available phone and desktop data entry/access features.

The technician will also be working on an inter-agency, national aquatic ecology research project funded under a newly awarded NASA grant. The technician will have the chance to learn more about data collection (including database API programming) among federal, state and non-profit organizations in tracking and monitoring presence/absence data for AIS. There will also be opportunities to meet a number of researchers involved in high profile ecological and biological projects and to meet renowned professors based at and to interact with summer students and interns.

The technician will be responsible for their food and lodging with potential options to lodge at the FLBS for the duration of the position and for food service (runs only 6/24-8/16). The technician must be able to transport themselves to the Flathead Lake Biological Station, MT by May 20, 2019 with work ending on or around August 16, 2019. The technician could help to co-author a peer-reviewed publication on the results of the comparative evaluation.

Qualifications:
A qualified candidate must:
1. Have knowledge of application programming (phone app or desktop based) and/or database API programming experience.
2. Be in their 3rd or 4th year of a computer science bachelor or related degree. Or have equivalent job experience.
3. Own a vehicle to travel to the Flathead Lake Biological Station that is approximately 90 minutes North of Missoula and 20 minutes North of Polson MT.

An outstanding candidate will have these skills:
1. Previous experience in biology and/or ecology and invasive species
2. Good written communication skills that could help the candidate in writing a short publication note on their findings and research over the summer.

3. Be comfortable in a team setting (but also independent) and be able to report daily and weekly to supervisors on progress.

To apply, email one pdf containing your one-page cover letter, CV or resume, and contact information of three references with the subject line “Application programmer summer 2019 - [insert your first and last name here]” to Dr. Brian Hand (brian.hand@umontana.edu). Applications will be reviewed as they are received. This position will remain open until filled.

Contact Person: Brian Hand
Contact Phone: 406-214-9708
Contact email: brian.hand@umontana.edu