

Employment Opportunity with Office of Kentucky Nature Preserves

Position: Natural Heritage Invertebrate Biologist II (Bee/pollinator focused)

Full-time Environmental Scientist II GFTL non-merit position with state benefits

Duration: 18 months (extension is funding dependent)

Salary range: \$3682.76 - \$5091.30 per month

Applications due: 3/31/2024, position start date April-May



Position Summary

The Office of Kentucky Nature Preserves protects some of the last remaining high-quality natural communities in Kentucky, monitors and recovers rare species and natural communities, conducts biological inventories of natural areas (private and public land) across Kentucky, and houses the states' natural heritage biodiversity databases. The natural heritage invertebrate biologists II will help coordinate our Bee Monitoring and Inventory Program for Kentucky, conduct invertebrate survey work primarily for Hymenoptera, Lepidoptera and terrestrial snails, and work alongside with OKNP biologists on plant/pollinator projects throughout Kentucky. Extensive statewide travel, including routine and extended overnight travel, is required. Visit our website to learn more about our agency

<https://eec.ky.gov/Nature-Preserves/Pages/default.aspx>

Duties include, but are not limited to

- Coordinating Bee Monitoring and Inventory Program for Kentucky
- Pollinator sampling on high quality natural areas throughout KY
- Invertebrate inventories and assessments of natural areas
- Data collection/management
- Rare plant pollinator studies and data collection
- Assisting with vegetation plot sampling
- Terrestrial snail surveys



Qualifications and Minimum Requirements

- Graduate of a college or university with a bachelor's degree in a natural, biological or physical science OR Graduate of a college or university with a bachelor's degree including or supplemented by 20 semester hours in a natural, biological or physical science; at least one year of experience in invertebrate surveys (master's degrees can substitute for experience).
- Applicant must possess valid driver's license
- Applicants must be able to use dichotomous keys to identify species. Priority will be given to those individuals who have strong Hymenoptera identification skills and plant identification skills.
- Applicants must be able to hike for extended periods of time under adverse field conditions and over uneven terrain
- Applicants are encouraged to participate in prescribed fire (trainings will be offered on the job)
- Willingness and ability to travel overnight for up to a week at a time
 - state vehicle will be provided, meals and lodging will be reimbursed
- Seldom weekend or alternative hours may be required for specific projects

Working Conditions

- Selected candidates are/may be exposed to biting/stinging insects, venomous snakes, poison ivy, and adverse weather conditions (precipitation, temperature, and humidity extremes)
- Individuals will often work in remote areas away from facilities and roads.

How to Apply: Interested individuals should send an electronic copy of your resume and cover letter to tara.littlefield@ky.gov by 3/31/2024