



NEVADA

DIVISION OF

NATURAL HERITAGE

STATE OF NEVADA
Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

Steve Sisolak, *Governor*
Jim Lawrence, *Acting Director*
Kristin Szabo, *Administrator*

--Employment Opportunity-- Nevada Springsnail Survey Crew Lead

Our Organization and Mission:

The Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Division of Natural Heritage (NDNH) is the state's comprehensive source of scientific data for Nevada's at-risk plants, animals, and ecological communities. Our mission is to maintain these data to support land management decisions and ensure the continued existence of Nevada's unique biodiversity.

Position Description:

NDNH, in cooperation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM), is recruiting a Springsnail Survey Crew Lead to survey for springsnails in the Elko BLM District of northeastern Nevada before expanding to other regions of the state once Elko priorities are completed. Project priorities and guidance will be provided by the Elko BLM Biodiversity Program (BP) and NDNH. The Springsnail Survey Crew Lead will organize and conduct springsnail surveys and habitat assessments on perennial spring systems using the Nevada Springsnail Survey Protocol, manage associated data, and write reports. Priority species for these surveys will be within the genus *Pyrgulopsis* and the Crew Lead will collect, organize, and submit specimens for genetic identification.

This is principally a field-based position. The work schedule will be four consecutive days on duty (Monday-Thursday), followed by three consecutive days off duty (Friday-Sunday) OR eight consecutive days (Wednesday-Wednesday), followed by six consecutive days off (Thursday-Tuesday). The crew will consist of one lead (this position) and two technicians. Camping at remote sites during field tours will be required through most of the field season to minimize travel time. Leadership responsibilities in the field include understanding and enforcing safety practices, evaluating site logistics, and ensuring fidelity to methods and data quality. The Crew Lead will additionally be responsible for completing or overseeing office tasks before and after field tours, including organizing equipment and supplies, managing data sources, planning weekly hitches, and communicating with technicians, NDNH, and BLM BP contacts.

This work will be based out of the BLM office in Elko, Nevada. The Elko BLM District encompasses 12.5 million acres and has topography typical of the Great Basin with broad valleys separated by mountain ranges. Elevations range from 4,000 to over 10,000 feet. The city of Elko (pop. 21,000) is located along the I-80 corridor and is approximately 230 miles west of Salt Lake City, UT and 290 miles east of Reno, NV. Recreation opportunities, including hiking, camping, and wildlife viewing, abound in this region. Cell phone service is poor to non-existent in many areas off major highways.

Extensive training will be provided by NDNH and the BLM BP regarding the Nevada Springsnail Protocol, general information on aquatic systems in Nevada, snail identification, and other related topics.

Compensation:

Wage: \$17.00/hour

Standard Per Diem: GSA Rate of up to \$59/day

Overtime: \$25.50/hour (40 hours available for contract length)

Housing stipend: \$300/month

Camping equipment is also available for crew member use while conducting field work

Timeframe:

April 17 – November 17, 2023 (7 months)

Full time (40 hours/week)

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree (minimum) in Wildlife Biology, Natural Resource Management, or a closely related field;
- Clean, valid, state-issued driver's license with ability to safely operate and maintain a 4WD vehicle on and off paved roads;
- Able to navigate and collect data using handheld GPS units and tablets;
- Proficient at navigating using a compass, topographic map, GPS, or Avenza Maps;
- Comfortable living and working in rural and remote field settings;
- Experience camping at remote, primitive sites for consecutive days;
- Physically capable of working outdoors, carrying up to 50 pounds of field equipment and personal gear, and withstanding the rigors of a high desert environment in all seasons;
- Willing to work early mornings and late evenings as needed during the field season;
- Able to communicate effectively with a diverse audience;
- Familiar with best practices for field safety and Leave No Trace principles;
- Capable of working as a team player to meet project goals set by NDNH and the BLM BP;
- Fully vaccinated against Covid-19 before start date;
- Preference will be given to individuals with experience:
 - Leading field crews in the backcountry, including oversight of safety, crew communication, fidelity to methods, and data quality
 - Providing periodic updates and progress reports for agency contacts
 - Managing data in Microsoft Excel, GIS, and ArcCollector software
 - Identifying plants, especially aquatic and riparian species
 - Surveying for cryptic species, especially mollusks
 - Collecting samples for genetic analysis; and
 - Using ArcGIS and GoogleEarth to create maps.

How to Apply:

Submit a single PDF document with the file name

"YourLastName_YourFirstName_Springsnail_Lead_Application" that includes:

1. Cover letter that outlines your interest in this position and generally describes your qualifications and experience.
2. Your resume.
3. The names and contact information for 2-3 professional references.

Send PDF to Eric Miskow, at emiskow@heritage.nv.gov with the subject line "Springsnail Lead Application." We are looking to fill these positions as soon as possible. Interviews will be conducted on a rolling basis beginning December 12 and will continue until a suitable applicant is identified.