

Desert Tortoise Natural Resources Specialist

Part-time, Non-Student Hourly

Duty Location: Nellis Air Force Base (NAFB), Nevada Test and Training Range (NTTR), Las Vegas, NV



Center for
Environmental
Management

MILITARY LANDS

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Position:

We are seeking 25 Desert Tortoise Monitors or Desert Tortoise Authorized Biologists to assist with the Mojave Desert Tortoise Monitoring Program on Nellis Air Force Base (NAFB) and the Nevada Test and Training Range (NTTR). These positions are field work based to survey demographic plots. Field work will be limited to **4 long weekends/ 12 days of work for the year.**

Organization:

The Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands (CEMML) is a research, education and service unit within the Warner College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University (CSU). CEMML applies the latest and most appropriate science to promote the sustainable management of natural and cultural resources on Department of Defense and other public lands. We provide technical support, conduct applied research, and offer career development and learning opportunities to support resource stewardship. We collaborate with our sponsors and within CSU to resolve complex environmental issues, leaving a legacy of science-based decisions to sustain our resources for future generations. To learn more about CEMML's contributions to land management and our mission, vision, and values, please visit <http://www.cemml.colostate.edu/>.

Location:

The Las Vegas-based CEMML team employs wildlife and vegetation specialists and GIS analysts that support the Air Force mission. Our projects include wetlands monitoring, vegetation surveys, invasive species management, and wildlife projects that involve small and large mammals, raptors and migratory birds, and reptiles and amphibians.

Responsibilities:

The Desert Tortoise Natural Resource Specialists will support the Mojave desert tortoise monitoring program on Nellis Air Force Base (NAFB) and the Nevada Test and Training Range (NTTR).

Fieldwork details:

- Field will occur when installation/range access allows (**Friday – Monday including federal holidays**) during desert tortoise active season (April – May, September – October).
- Field days consist of hiking in remote areas for long distances (up to 10 miles per day).
- Weather conditions can be highly variable, and hot temperatures are typical.
- Desert Tortoise Natural Resource Specialists will need to carry food, water, and survey materials. Applicants must be capable of carrying a heavy pack (up to 30 lbs.) throughout the day.

- Field teams will start early in the morning; all staff will meet as a group at the Las Vegas office and depart in a work-issued vehicle.
- Overnight travel to access remote field sites may occur for 1 long weekend of fieldwork per year.

CEMML Las Vegas operates entirely on military lands, as a result, fieldwork may be canceled on short notice due to active operations. Our access to the majority of field locations is limited to weekends and holidays, thus, **the ability to work weekends and holidays is required.** In addition to field work this position includes communication and coordination with CEMML staff.

Position Duration:

We anticipate hiring 25 individuals for this ongoing, multi-year project. Applications will be evaluated as they are received. Individuals hired are not guaranteed a set schedule. The position is hourly, as-needed. Schedules will be coordinated with CEMML Research Associates, and NAFB staff. Scheduling is developed months in advance; however, confirmation of range access typically occurs the Wednesday prior to the weekend (3 days' notice). As a result, survey locations may change with very little notice, or survey work may be canceled entirely.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Science degree in biology, wildlife science (or similar subject)
- Availability to work weekends and holidays during the spring and fall seasons.
- Ability to work in challenging field conditions (heat, cold, carrying heavy equipment, ability to walk long distances, etc.)
- Demonstrated adaptability to field work related issues (health and safety conscious and able to perform equipment troubleshooting)
- Ability to work effectively in a diverse team comprised of various personalities.
- Must have a valid driver's license or the ability to obtain a driver's license by the employment start date
- The successful candidate must be eligible to work in the United States by proposed start date. CEMML will not provide visa sponsorship for this position
- Colorado State University conducts background checks on all final candidates.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Prior work as a Desert Tortoise Monitor or Authorized Biologist.
- Prior experience with Mojave Desert Tortoises or other chelonian species.
- Previous experience working in the Mojave Desert.
- Previous experience supporting natural resource projects on military installations.
- Previous experience working with ESA Threatened or Endangered listed species.

Hourly Rate:

The hourly rate for Desert Tortoise Monitor and Authorized Biologists; Natural Resources Specialist (Desert Tortoise) will range between \$20/hr - \$50/hr, commensurate with experience, education, and overall qualifications.

Application:

Applications will be accepted until positions are filled. To apply for this position please submit the following to Drew White-Jacobson (Drew.White-Jacobson@colostate.edu) for review using the subject line: “**DT Monitor/AB Application**”

1. Cover letter – highlight relevant experience, including work with desert tortoises, the Mojave ecosystem work, and previous experience working on DoD lands.
2. Resume/CV.
3. Three professional references – Include name, title, organization, phone number, and email.
4. Optional: A completed SOQ form for prior Mojave Desert Tortoise work (if previously completed).

Point of contact for any inquiries:

1. **Drew White-Jacobson**, Lead Desert Tortoise Biologist
Drew.White-Jacobson@colostate.edu
(801) 898-8532
2. **Chris Herron**, Natural Resources Specialist & Principal Investigator
Christopher.herron@colostate.edu
(970) 491-4146

Employee Benefits:

Employee Benefit information can be found on HR’s Website at <https://hr.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/25/2021/02/benefits-summary-hourly.pdf> and <https://hr.colostate.edu/current-employees/benefits/>.

Colorado State University (CSU) provides equal employment opportunities to all applicants for employment and prohibits discrimination and harassment of any type without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability status, genetics, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state or local laws.

Colorado State University strives to provide a safe study, work, and living environment for its faculty, staff, volunteers and students. To support this environment and comply with applicable laws and regulations, CSU conducts background checks for the finalist before a final offer. The type of background check conducted varies by position and can include, but is not limited to, criminal history, sex offender registry, motor vehicle history, financial history, and/or education verification. Background checks will also be conducted when required by law or contract and when, in the discretion of the University, it is reasonable and prudent to do so.

See a complete listing of open CEMML positions at <http://www.cemml.colostate.edu>.