

U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Acoustical Technician (Colorado State University - Research Associate I)

Location: Fort Collins, Colorado

Salary: \$27,000 to \$35,000, DOE starting, plus benefits

Full Consideration Date: TBA

Tour of Duty: Full-time (includes benefits) One year initial term with possible extension depending on performance and project funding. The position is funded entirely from federal sources under an NPS Cooperative Agreement.

Duties:

The National Park Service (NPS), Natural Sounds Program (NSP) is part of the Natural Resource Division (NRD), a Washington, D.C. based office, located in Fort Collins, Colorado. The NSP assists park units in monitoring and managing acoustical environments. This position will assist NSP staff in collecting and analyzing acoustical data needed to support park management. Data collection will require extended field projects at park units; data analysis will require intensive analytical work. Applicants must be adaptable: available for extensive travel, capable of working in wilderness, and possess a keen interest in engineering or scientific analysis.

The incumbent's primary duties include:

Fieldwork:

1. Collect acoustical and meteorological data at remote field sites. Manage logistical preparations, identify suitable locations for placing equipment, set up, calibrate, and maintain equipment. Maintain detailed field observation logs, diagnose equipment failures and effect repairs. Recover and refurbish equipment. Retrieve data and ensure secure archiving.

Data Processing:

1. Process acoustical data to identify sound sources and extract quantitative measures relevant to park unit management issues.
2. Write reports summarizing the results of acoustic monitoring projects, and conduct verbal presentations to park staff and lay audiences.

The incumbent's additional responsibilities include:

1. Data entry and other data formatting as needed to populate acoustics databases.
2. Preparing graphical displays of data and results for technical and lay audiences.
3. Providing technical assistance to park staff and other personnel associated with the Natural Sounds Program.
4. Contributing to meetings with park staff: determining the scope of work, identifying local priorities, designating acoustical zones that merit monitoring effort, providing updates on progress, providing summaries at the end of a project.
5. Performing other duties as assigned by the NSP project managers.

Requirements:

1. Bachelor's degree (preferably in natural science, engineering, or natural resources).
2. Available for extensive travel (up to three weeks per month in summer).
3. Computer literacy, especially Microsoft Office software.
4. The ability to hike while carrying a backpack (up to 25 kg), through rough terrain.
5. Hearing ability to detect and identify sound sources in quiet natural areas.
6. Field experience in physical or biological sciences.

Desired Attributes:

1. Experience with acoustical or meteorological monitoring devices.
2. Experience using and maintaining scientific instruments or electronics in a field setting.
3. Experience diagnosing and/or repairing equipment failures.
4. Experience practicing and/or promoting safety in the workplace.

Supervisory Controls:

The position reports to the CSU Principal Investigator, working closely with the NPS Natural Sounds Program manager and staff.

Application Process:

Submit:

1. Letter of interest. In the letter, please include a detailed description of your field experience: your role and responsibilities in the field, and your experience using/troubleshooting/repairing scientific instruments in the field. Please mention which required and desired attributes you possess.
2. Current resume
3. Names, addresses, and phone numbers of three references
4. Copy of college transcripts

Mail **hardcopy** to:

Emma Lynch, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive, Suite 100, Fort Collins, CO 80525. Full consideration deadline March 29, 2010. Travel funds to a maximum of \$300 will be available per candidate for interviews. For questions, please email Emma_Lynch@nps.gov.

Condition of Employment: Colorado State University is committed to providing a safe and productive learning and living community. To achieve that goal, we conduct background investigations for all final candidates being considered for employment. Individual will also require a federal Security Assurance Check because the job is in a federally occupied building. Background checks may include, but are not limited to, criminal history, national sex offender search and motor vehicle history. Colorado State University is an EEO/AA employer, E.O. office: 101 Student Services. Colorado State University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and complies with all Federal and Colorado State laws, regulations, and executive orders regarding affirmative action requirements in all programs. The Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity is located in 101 Student Services Building. In order to assist Colorado State University in meeting its affirmative action responsibilities, ethnic minorities, women and other protected class members are encouraged to apply and so identify themselves.