

University of California Riverside
JOB DESCRIPTION
JUNIOR SPECIALIST SERIES

RANK & STEP: Junior Specialist, Step 1

SUPERVISOR'S NAME: Dr. Lynn Sweet

RESEARCH AREA: Center for Conservation Biology, Palm Desert Center Campus

PERIOD OF EMPLOYMENT: Full time for one year. Employment will begin in May 2023. Salary and benefits will be provided.

PREREQUISITES: Appointees to the Junior Specialist rank should possess a baccalaureate degree (or equivalent degree) or equivalent research experience. Each candidate must have a valid California Driver's License and reliable transportation to Palm Desert, CA. Candidates must pass a criminal history background check prior to the commencement of the appointment.

A reasonable estimate of the salary for this position is \$49,000-\$52,000 annually.

DUTIES TO BE PERFORMED

Performance in research in specialized areas:

1. This is a field biologist position. Candidates must be able to work outdoors in sometimes-rugged desert terrain, standing and walking most of the day, hiking up to 5 miles. Outside working conditions could be cold in the winter and very warm in the spring and early summer. Being able to read maps and use digital mapping devices will be critical.
2. The candidate will be required to schedule fieldwork for themselves and volunteers to accomplish research tasks in a timely manner. The expectation is that you will be working 40 hours / week. However, that could include five 8-hour days, or four 10-hour days during the work week. Weekend work may be occasionally requested for outreach events and field campaigns.
3. Overnight camping may be required (rarely), and the work involves long travel periods in UCR vehicles, mainly within the Riverside and Imperial Counties in California. Transportation will be provided, and private car usage is reimbursed at federal mileage rates.
4. Tasks will include visual observation and identification of vegetation, insects, reptiles and birds. Candidates should have some familiarity or the motivation to learn to survey for each of these groups of animals and plants perceiving them by sight and sound. Training will be provided.
5. Tasks will also include office work, equipment maintenance, datasheet preparation, data entry, and assisting with meeting and calendar scheduling.
6. The candidate will work with volunteers as well as assist with outreach to the public on conservation issues.

Requirements:

1. Capability of collecting and recording field data with a high degree of precision, and a tolerance for many, often repetitive field tasks and measurements.
2. The ability to solve problems and communicate clearly via email and over the phone to plan and achieve work cooperatively and safely with a variety of people.
3. Ability to reliably schedule and complete tasks occasionally with little supervision, seek out clarification where needed and make adjustments to plans and schedules in order to achieve goals.
4. A good sense of time and task management and flexibility with regard to the workday, related to issues such as weather delays.

The position is a one-year funded position located in Palm Desert, California. The position is based in the Center for Conservation Biology at UCR: the lab of Dr. Lynn Sweet located at UCR's Palm Desert Center. There is a possibility of an additional year of employment, based on funding.

TO APPLY: please send a letter describing your qualifications, a CV or Resume, and the contact information for 3 references (name, organization, position title, phone, and email) to: Dr. Lynn Sweet, lynn.sweet@ucr.edu. Review of applications will begin April 15th and continue until the position is filled.

The Center for Conservation Biology, at the University of California, Riverside has a 35-year history of working with multiple stakeholder agencies and landowners in the southern California desert, including the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan. We work to integrate field observations and natural history into multiple levels of applied ecological investigation. Our projects span investigations into rare plant distributions, monitoring aeolian communities on long-term study plots, designing community science projects, and working on habitat modeling for endangered and threatened species in the region.

UCR is a world-class research university with an exceptionally diverse undergraduate student body. Its mission is explicitly linked to providing routes to educational success for underrepresented and first-generation college students. A commitment to this mission is a preferred qualification.

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer with a strong institutional commitment to the achievement of excellence and diversity among its faculty and staff. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, disability, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

As a condition of employment, you will be required to comply with the University of California SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Vaccination Program Policy. All Covered Individuals under the policy must provide proof of Full Vaccination or, if applicable, submit a request for Exception (based on Medical Exemption, Disability, and/or Religious Objection) or Deferral (based on pregnancy) no later than the applicable deadline. New University of California employees should refer to Appendix F, Section II.C. of the policy for applicable deadlines. (Capitalized terms in this paragraph are defined in the policy.) Federal, state, or local public health directives may impose additional requirements.