

UTAH GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Position Announcement

Title: Geological Technician – Wetlands
Work Location: Salt Lake City, UT
Pay Rate: \$16.00/hour
Closing Date: April 3, 2022
Employment Period: June 2022 through January 2023, about eight months

Position Description: The Utah Geological Survey (UGS) seeks a full-time wetland technician to assist with two wetland research projects to better understand Utah’s wetlands. The first project is a characterization of playa wetlands around Great Salt Lake and applicant can expect to conduct vegetation surveys, gather macroinvertebrate samples, and characterize soils. They may also assist with soil macroinvertebrate identification and data entry and analysis.

The second project involves mapping wetlands in Heber and Utah Valleys to provide updated spatial data to local communities. Mapping duties will include interpreting aerial imagery to identify, classify, and digitize wetland boundaries in ArcGIS. There will be occasional field work to validate mapping. This person may assist with other wetland and groundwater research projects as needed, such as collecting hydrologic data in the field, evaluating spatial data to validate montane wetlands, and performing data entry and QAQC. This position is a great opportunity to learn wetland ecology, develop GIS expertise, and gain exposure to a broad variety of wetland and groundwater research.

Ideal applicants will have (1) experience or coursework with wetlands or other aquatic systems, (2) experience or coursework with ArcGIS, and (3) experience conducting fieldwork in remote or challenging conditions. Applicants should expect to split their time between field and office-based work, with most fieldwork occurring as single day trips from Salt Lake City. The position may be extended beyond eight months based on performance and funding. The position is based out of Salt Lake City and housing is not provided.

Qualifications:

Completion of at least three years of work towards a bachelor’s degree in ecology, biology, geology, geography, environmental science, wetland science, or related field.

1. At least one season of field experience or demonstrated ability to conduct work outdoors.
2. Ability to follow established protocols and meet data quality standards.
3. Coursework or demonstrated proficiency with ArcGIS.
4. Field experience or coursework in any of the following: ecology, wetland systems, aquatic resource monitoring.
5. Ability to work long hours during field days, drive a State of Utah vehicle, hike moderate distances through occasionally rough terrain, and tolerate exposure to both hot and cold conditions, rain, biting insects, and other field nuisances.
6. Ability to work full time from mid-June through the end of September. Part time or flexible schedules can be accommodated through the fall and winter.

This position is classified as a Geological Technician position and does not include benefits. To apply, submit resume, potential start and end dates, cover letter, and three references (with phone numbers) to Becka Downard at the Utah Geological Survey, beckad@utah.gov.