Red fox field technician (possible PhD project)

Agency
University of California, Davis

Location
Davis, California

Job Category
Temporary field technician with possibility of extension to PhD assistantship

website
http://www.vgl.ucdavis.edu/cdcg/home.php

Salary
$1,800/month

Start Date
09/1/2012

Last Date to Apply
08/15/2012

Description
The secured position entails assisting a PhD student with research on the Sierra Nevada red fox in California for Fall 2012 and, pending anticipated funds, transitioning to a project-leader position ($2,000/month) to start up a new project on Sacramento Valley red fox in the central valley of California (~January 2013). If funded, the latter project also would serve as the basis for a PhD research project (graduate school to begin in Fall 2013, Graduate Group in Ecology, UC Davis). The secured position for Fall 2012 (Sept—Dec) involves field research on Sierra Nevada red foxes (including camera surveys, noninvasive genetic sampling, live-trapping, telemetry). The anticipated (but unsecured) extension would involve leading a field study to survey for Sacramento Valley red foxes relative to habitat models. The specific topic of the dissertation would be somewhat flexible but related to Sacramento Valley red fox. Additional funding to support the research project will be targeted via grants submitted by the student and his/her major advisor.

Qualifications
Requirements: M.S. or significant field experience in Wildlife Ecology or related field; undergraduate GPA ≥ 3.5; GRE ≥ 1300 (or equivalent on the new scale). Preferred candidates will have a strong interest in carnivore ecology and conservation, prior experience with remote camera surveys, mesocarnivore capture, radiotelemetry, and GIS/data management skills. The applicant must be willing to work extended hours in adverse conditions, have basic wilderness experience (field work, strenuous hiking, backpacking in rain or snow)—backcountry ski and snowmobile experience are a plus—and ability to coordinate the activities of field crews and student interns. Applicant must have a driver’s license and experience driving 4WD vehicles on unpaved roads, and ability to navigate on foot with a GPS. Because the anticipated extended project will require extensive coordination private landowners, strong interpersonal skills and willingness to work with people in rural communities are important. To be considered, please submit a cover letter, CV (including names, phone numbers and email addresses of 3 references), and copies (unofficial) of transcripts and GRE scores to Ben Sacks (bnsacks@ucdavis.edu). Canid Diversity and Conservation Unit, Center for Veterinary
Genetics, University of California, Davis, Davis, CA 95616. Review of applications will begin immediately and the position will be filled when the desired applicant is found.