

From: David Inouye
Subject: Job: Field Technician I-Instrumentation

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Location: Land O'Lakes, WI, US Worker Category :Regular Full-Time

COMPANY OVERVIEW

Battelle and its affiliate, Battelle Ecology, Inc. manages and operates the National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON™) project, which is solely funded by the National Science Foundation. A 30+ year project dedicated to understanding how changes in climate, land use and invasive species impact ecology, the observatory's scientists and engineers are collecting a comprehensive range of ecological data on a continental scale across 20 eco-climatic domains representing US ecosystems. Our teams use cutting-edge technology, including an airborne observation platform that captures images of regional landscapes and vegetation; mobile, relocatable, and fixed data collection sites with automated ground sensors to monitor soil and atmosphere; and trained field crews who observe and sample populations of diverse organisms and collect soil and water data. Once structures are completed, a leading edge cyberinfrastructure will calibrate, store and publish this information. The Observatory includes more than 500+ personnel and is the first of its designed to detect and enable forecasting of ecological change at continental scales.

For more information about the project and our team, visit www.battelle.org/neon.

JOB SUMMARY

The Field Technician reports to the Field Operations Manager and will be hired as a Field Technician I.

- Field Technician I - The Field Technician I is a biological sampling lead performing seasonal and periodic sampling activities and sample processing. Seasonal field sampling is conducted with the assistance of temporary field crews under the guidance of the Field Technician.

LOCATION

The Domain 5 Field Technician's primary work location is the NEON Great Lakes Domain Support Facility located at the University of Notre Dame Environmental Research Center, near Land O' Lakes, WI. This position supports multiple field sites in northern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Field Instrumentation (primary emphasis):

- Maintain, troubleshoot, and operate environmental sensors and instrumentation in terrestrial and aquatic field sites.
- Inspect and maintain instrumentation infrastructure including towers, boom arms, sensor mounts, boardwalks and instrument huts at terrestrial sites and instrumentation buoys, groundwater wells, and weather stations at aquatic sites.
- Assist the Battelle Ecology, Inc. Systems Engineering Product Team with instrument installation and testing, when needed.
- Maintain records of field activities, completed work, and trouble tickets according to Field Operations protocol.

Secondary responsibilities may also include:

- Assist with monitoring, sampling collection, and sample processing for aquatic sites, including water quality, biological indicators, ecological communities, and physical properties.
- Assist with monitoring, sample collection, and sample processing in terrestrial sites, including vegetation, soil, insects, and small mammals.

General duties include:

- Report activities, completed work, and sampling problems according to Field Operations protocols.
- Inspect, maintain and operate field, safety, and laboratory equipment.
- Operate laboratory equipment (e.g. Wiley Mill, drying oven, analytical balance, centrifugal mill, pH meter, microscope, and muffle furnace).
- Assist the Field Operations Manager with recruiting and training of seasonal field personnel.

- Provide instruction and technical guidance to seasonal field personnel.
- Perform plot establishment by locating plots with GPS navigation as well as measuring and marking plots.
- Assist the Field Operations Manager with materials planning, inventory and ordering as well as day-to-day oversight of personnel and scheduling of activities coordinated from the Domain Support Facility.
- Follow Battelle Ecology, Inc. safety and Field Operations policy and procedures.

Physical demands: The work is physical and involves walking, hiking, prolonged standing, walking and bending. Heavy items (e.g. equipment and packs up to 40 pounds) must be lifted and carried on a routine basis.

Work environment: Field work includes exposure to extreme weather conditions and terrain, pesticides, poisonous plants, biting insects, and wild animals. Tower work involves performing work on instrument towers ranging in height from 24 feet to 300 feet which will include ascending and descending multiple flights of stairs. Aquatic work takes place both on shoreline and from small watercraft.

REQUIRED: EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

All Technician Levels:

- Ability to work in a team environment.
- Experience should include performing scientific data entry and data management.
- Ability to hike off-trail to assigned field site for long distances carrying field equipment (pack weighing up to 40 lbs.) for extended periods of time.
- Ability and willingness to travel overnight regularly (6-8 nights per month).

Battelle Ecology, Inc. will be selecting an individual for the Field Technician I level. Equivalent education and experience may be considered.

Field Technician I

- Bachelor's degree in ecology, environmental sciences or related scientific discipline.
- One (1) or more years' of related experience.

Battelle Ecology, Inc. will take into consideration qualifications for specific and diverse experience in the following areas:

Leadership:

- Effective leadership skills and the ability to motivate others.
- Effective problem solving skills and the ability to determine and act on changing priorities in a fast paced dynamic environment.
- Ability to organize and execute multiple activities and priorities.

Skills:

- Ability to perform minor troubleshooting, calibration, and repair of field equipment.
- Ability to follow written and verbal instructions.
- Ability and willingness to learn and adopt new technologies as needed.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- High level of attention to detail and accuracy.
- Ability to make effective decisions that take into consideration safety and operational standards.

Working conditions:

- Ability and willingness to work varied field operations schedules (up to 12+ hours per day), including split-shift, part-time, pre-dawn early mornings, evenings and weekends.
- Ability and willingness to work on towers ranging in height from 24 feet to 300 feet including ascending and descending multiple flights of stairs on instrument towers.
- Perform field assignments in a variety of terrain and of weather conditions including cold and wet winter weather and extreme heat.
- Ability to withstand exposure to fumes, dust, and noise.
- Ability and willingness to travel overnight frequently (e.g. semi-monthly for 3-4 nights) is required.

Must possess a current and valid State issued driver's license with insurable Department of Motor vehicle record (parking violations, minor driving offenses excluded) as determined by Battelle Ecology Inc.'s insurance provider.

Must have permanent authorization for US employment. Battelle Ecology,

Inc. will not provide any kind of visa sponsorship.

This position offers competitive total rewards including 401(k), health, vision and dental insurance, paid time off and the opportunity to work with an organization with a great mission.

Battelle Ecology, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Women, Minorities, Veterans and Disabled Persons are encouraged to apply.