

Freshwater Food Web – Junior Specialist

Center for Watershed Sciences

POSITION OVERVIEW

Salary Range: A reasonable estimate for this position is \$49,000 at Step 1.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Center for Watershed Sciences at the University of California, Davis seeks to fill a non-tenured, academic term appointment as a Junior Specialist. This position will aid in the study of the food web ecology of mountain lakes.

Research (90%)

Duties include:

- Laboratory studies of water quality, plant, macroinvertebrate, and zooplankton community composition, and food web isotopic analyses; Occasionally participating in field studies to collect aquatic organisms, measure water quality, and instrument lakes; Includes backpacking and camping at lake sites (Essential backpacking gear will be provided).
- Participate in data entry, post-processing, data synthesis and statistical analysis.
- Actively and significantly involved in creative activities of publishing research and designing future research;
- Engaging in discussions of research to assist in interpreting results;
- Assisting more senior researchers in preparing manuscripts for peer-review journals by writing methods sections and commenting on draft manuscripts; and
- Participating in design of studies as part of writing research proposals by applying experience to revise study designs.

Professional Competence & Activity (5%)

Present research results at local and regional meetings, such as the Society for Freshwater Science California Chapter meeting, University of California Center for Fire Research and Outreach meeting, California Fire Science Consortium, or others.

University and Public Service (5%)

As part of academic training, will mentor undergraduates and similar assistants in field and laboratory methods and data collection and may serve as a member of one or more Center for Watershed Sciences ad hoc committees (e.g., field equipment sharing/maintenance, field safety planning, laboratory shared space coordination), and college, campus and other University entities, as appropriate.

TERM OF APPOINTMENT

One year full-time at 100%, Junior Specialist, Step I. A Junior Specialist appointee should have a baccalaureate or similar degree in a discipline relevant or related to the research conducted in the unit hiring the appointee, or if lacking a relevant baccalaureate degree should have experience with the appropriate specialized research methods. In general, it is inappropriate to appoint an individual with a Master's or doctoral degree in the relevant discipline or a baccalaureate degree plus three or more years of experience with the specialized methods as a Junior Specialist.

QUALIFICATIONS

Basic qualifications (required at time of application)

- Bachelor's degree in ecology, biology, or environmental studies, plus a minimum of one year's experience in laboratory and/or field research.
- Current Driver's License.
- Experience and effectiveness in team-based work that requires communication, decision-making skills, cooperation, and leadership.
- Experience in working independently and remain focused for long periods of time while conducting procedures in a laboratory at the bench or microscope.
- Experience in paying close attention to detail with labwork, fieldwork, basic sample inventory and management, and in learning new laboratory machinery/instruments.
- Experience in basic microscopy techniques.
- Ability to transfer ground/powdered sample material into small capsules (8x5 mm) with precision.
- Ability to bend, squat, crouch, back-pack for several mile hikes with up to 50 pounds of field equipment, and do this repetitively during field sampling days of 8-10 hours duration in weather conditions spanning from cold winter rains to very hot summer days. This can include overnight camping in the field.
- Knowledge of taxonomic keys.
- Knowledge of basic ecology.

Preferred qualifications

- Experience in lab sample preparation, microscopic analyses, sorting, and handling of samples such as: zooplankton, fish guts, fish dissections, macroinvertebrates, phytoplankton, sediment, and fish otolith growth increments.
- Experience identifying California freshwater fauna (e.g., plants, macroinvertebrates, zooplankton) in the lab.
- Experience with data analysis and technical writing.
- Experience with aquatic sampling field methods for invertebrates, fish, and water quality.
- Knowledge of MS Excel, Word, and Access; ArcGIS and Program R software.
- Knowledge of experimental design and statistical analysis.

- Ability to mentor and lead undergraduate and similar field assistants.

HOW TO APPLY

- Create an Application ID
- Provide required information and upload documents
- If any, provide required reference information

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Document requirements

- Curriculum Vitae - Your most recently updated C.V.
- Cover Letter
- Statement of Research (Optional)
- Statement of Teaching (Optional)
- Statement of Contributions to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion - Contributions to diversity, equity, and inclusion documented in the application file will be used to evaluate applicants. Visit <https://academicaffairs.ucdavis.edu/faculty-equity-and-inclusion> for guidelines about writing a statement and why one is requested.

Reference requirements

- 3-5 required (contact information only)

Apply link: <https://recruit.ucdavis.edu/JPF05724>.