

# National Audubon Society

## Position Description

Position Title: Field Technician	Location: Tavernier Science Center, Tavernier, Florida Keys
Department: 7040 FL Bay Studies	Immediate Supervisor: Peter Frezza

### **Purpose of the position:**

Biological monitoring of aquatic vegetation and maintenance of hydrologic instrumentation in the mangrove zone of Everglades National Park, Biscayne National Park, and the Florida Keys.

### **Essential Functions:**

- Successful applicant will carry out routine field surveys of submerged and emergent aquatic vegetation. Some of this monitoring will be performed in the water by means of snorkeling and/or SCUBA apparatus.
- Successful applicant will maintain hydrologic monitoring equipment. This will consist of cleaning, calibrations and minor repairs of instrumentation (e.g. dataloggers, rain gauges, sensors, cell phone telemetry) both in the field and the laboratory.
- Successful applicant will be responsible for management of databases consisting of hydrologic and biologic information.
- Successful applicant will assist supervisor with data analysis and report writing
- Successful applicant will be responsible for general maintenance of boats, trailers, small outboard engines, and field gear

### **Additional Information:**

- Knowledge of wetland ecosystems is very desirable
- A firm understanding and respect of the scientific method is paramount
- The job requires long hours in the field exposed to the harsh South Florida environment (applicants may sometimes work alone in this very difficult habitat)
- The applicant must be in good physical condition and be able to anticipate the demands of each field trip to avoid dehydration, etc. Physical abilities include tolerance for and ability to work diligently in harsh field conditions (Florida sun, heat, biting insects, and wading in water/mud), with the recognition, understanding, and willingness to deal with the possibility of swimming or wading in murky water that serves as the home for potentially dangerous wildlife
- Assistance with research projects will occasionally involve travel in helicopters
- Applicant will be responsible for maintenance of vehicles and all field gear, assisting with site preparation and construction (as needed), and participating in group projects to maintain the base facility and improve operations
- Experience maintaining and repairing mechanical equipment (trucks, boats, etc.) is highly desirable
- Experience with GIS applications is desirable

**Relationships:**

*Internal:* Work at direction of immediate supervisor, available to work with other center related staff when needed

*External:* Limited interaction with Federal and State agency personnel when working in the field

**Equipment:** Standard computer skills and knowledge of basic software programs are required. General mechanical skills are required (i.e. ability to use basic hand tools, knowledge of basic electrical theory/components). Familiarity with operation of small boats (<20 feet), outboard motors, boat trailers, and other marine equipment is extremely beneficial.

**Qualifications:** (e.g., education, training, experience, licenses and skills)

A minimum of a B.S. or B.A. in biology, ecology, hydrology or related field is required. Field experience in Florida's estuaries, mangrove forests, and/or coastal wetlands is desired. A PADI or comparable diver certification is beneficial but not required. Must be able to secure a Florida drivers license.

**Physical Requirements:** (e.g., lifting, reaching, climb, push/pull, etc.)

Requires long and unpredictable hours of work in the harsh southern Florida environment. A tolerance for hot and humid weather with exposure to intense sun, exposure to myriad biting insects, boating in rough seas is necessary.

Due to the nature of the work, applicants must be *extremely* comfortable in the water and with their swimming/snorkeling abilities. They must also be comfortable snorkeling in murky waters and with the fact that sharks, alligators, and crocodiles inhabit the same waters in which they will be working.

This is a permanent position with full health and retirement benefits.

Interested individuals please send a resume and names of three references with contact information to the below contact. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

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