

Summer Field Positions – Monarch Butterfly Technicians (4)

Title: Seasonal Field Technician

Work Location: Fort Drum, NY (free housing available upon request)

Salary: Minimum \$18 per hour depending on experience

The NY Natural Heritage Program is seeking four seasonal field positions for Monarch Butterfly Technicians to perform work at Fort Drum Military Installation from May-August 2023. The field crew will assess presence of Monarch Butterflies and document potential habitat present on the Installation and determine potential direct (collision) and indirect (dust) impacts of vehicle use.

The New York Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP) is a program of the Research Foundation for the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF) whose mission is to facilitate the conservation of New York's biodiversity by providing comprehensive information and scientific expertise on rare species and natural ecosystems. NYNHP works in partnership with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and other state, federal and private organizations involved in natural resource management, land protection and stewardship, and advancing the conservation of biodiversity. For more information visit www.nynhp.org.

Duties

- Field crew will document the presence of monarch butterfly host plants. Assess presence of butterflies and document life stages and activity.
- Deploy and maintain trail cameras throughout the Installation. Assist with review of photos from trail cameras and catalog photos taken.
- Monitor potential dust impacts to butterflies from passing vehicles on host plant patches near roads.
- Assist with a wide range of physical and technical tasks. Use hand-held data collection devices.

Required Qualifications

- Course work or field experience in one or more of the following areas: zoology, botany, wildlife management, community ecology, wetland systems.
- As per Fort Drum requirements, applicants must be U.S. citizens and a background check will be conducted.

Preferred Qualifications

- Familiarity with field sampling methods, collecting biological/environmental data, and logistical planning for field work.
- Familiarity with aerial photography and field navigation using aerial, topographic, and road maps.
- Knowledge of regional butterflies, milkweed species, natural communities, ecosystems, or ecosystem processes.
- Familiarity with taxonomic keys and field guides.

Working Conditions/Physical Effort

- May work in variable weather conditions, at remote locations, on difficult and hazardous terrain, and under physically demanding circumstances, in isolated settings. Will be working on an active military base.
- Willingness to work some weekends and/or holidays in order to access otherwise restricted areas.

Covid-19: Employees will need to follow Covid-19 safety protocols as per Fort Drum and SUNY ESF.

Apply by March 1, 2023 for optimal consideration! Review of applications will take place until positions are filled. Send resume and contact information for three employment references to Erin White, erin.white@dec.ny.gov

As an Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action employer, the Research Foundation will not discriminate in its employment practices due to an applicant's race, color, religion, sex, national origin and veteran or disability status.