

## Summer Field Positions – Wood Turtle Technicians (2)

**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 two seasonal field technicians to conduct presence-absence surveys of Wood Turtles at Fort Drum Military Installation from **mid-April through mid-June 2023**. Additional work beyond this position's end date may be available.

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](http://www.nynhp.org).

### **Duties**

- Work as a team to conduct presence-absence surveys for Wood Turtles with occasional radio-tracking and nest monitoring. Mark and measure wood turtles using standard methods.
- Collaborate with detection dog team conducting concurrent wood turtle surveys.
- Assist with a wide range of physical and technical tasks. Use hand-held data collection devices including tablets and Trimble GPS units.

### **Required Qualifications**

- Field experience in one or more of the following areas: zoology, botany, wildlife management, ecology, wetland systems.
- Willingness and capability to work outdoors in all weather conditions.
- Familiarity with reptile ecology and natural history.
- Possession of a valid driver's license.
- Ability to work professionally on an active military installation.
- As per Fort Drum requirements, applicants must be U.S. citizens and a background check will be conducted.

### **Preferred Qualifications**

- Knowledge of wood turtle ecology and natural history.
- Familiarity with field sampling methods, collecting biological/environmental data in challenging field conditions, and logistical planning for field work.
- Familiarity with aerial photography and field navigation using aerial, topographic, and road maps.
- Previous experience conducting field surveys for reptiles/amphibians.

### **Working Conditions/Physical Effort**

- Will 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.
- Surveys require hiking in and around swift moving streams and turbid water, thick vegetation (briars, thorns, poison ivy) and wetlands with biting insects.
- Work in close contact with trained detection dogs.
- Willingness to work occasional weekends and/or holidays 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 17 Feb 2023 for optimal consideration!** However, review of applications will take place until positions are filled. Your application should consist of a 1–2-page resume plus contact information for three professional references (references do not count towards the page limit). Please email your application to John P. Vanek at [john.vanek@dec.ny.gov](mailto:john.vanek@dec.ny.gov) as a PDF titled “Lastname\_WoodTurtle2023.pdf” with an email subject of “Wood Turtle Application 2023”.

*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.*