Title: Amphibian Field Technician

Agency: University of Montana – Missoula, Department of Wildlife Biology and Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit

Location: Prairie Pothole Region between Medicine Lake, Montana and Crosby, North Dakota

Duration: Late May to early July 2018, possibility for additional work in Missoula, Montana

Salary: ~$10/hr (~$1600/moth) commensurate with experience, and free housing in Crosby, North Dakota

Job Description: I am seeking a highly motivated and qualified individual to assist in documenting the survival and stress physiology of amphibian communities (Barred tiger salamanders *Ambystoma mavortium*, Boreal Chorus Frogs *Pseudacris maculata*, and Leopard Frogs *Rana pipiens*) in wetlands in the Prairie Pothole Region of Montana and North Dakota. The technician will assist with monitoring stress physiology of amphibians in wetlands throughout the region by sampling larval amphibian populations and collecting waterborne hormone samples and morphological information. They will also help collect invertebrate samples and assess water quality parameters at each site. Importantly, the technician will help implement and monitor several laboratory experiments on site to experimentally investigate the influence of environmental contaminants on larval amphibian survival and stress physiology. Finally, the technician will help with processing water quality and waterborne hormone samples on site (e.g., sample filtering and solid phase extractions). If desired, opportunities exist for independent projects.

Qualifications: Candidates should be in the process of obtaining a Bachelor’s Degree in biology, wildlife or conservation biology, chemistry, or a related field. Strong written and communication skills, and meticulous attention to detail are required to monitor experiments and transcribe and enter data. Applicant must be able to conduct strenuous fieldwork, have the physical ability and desire to work long hours in the field, and have a high tolerance for wind and biting insects. Ideal candidates will also have some familiarity or experience with amphibian, fisheries, or aquatic ecology field or laboratory techniques. Relevant experiences include: excellent note-taking abilities, data entry, amphibian collection with dipnets or seines, identification of amphibian larvae and invertebrates, water quality assessment, and any experience with analytical chemistry techniques.

Contact information: Send letter of interest, resume, and contact information for relevant references to brian.tornabene@umontana.edu

Open until filled.