Highland Mountains Bighorn Sheep Research Project

Position Description:

In cooperation with Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, the Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit will be hiring up to 4 field technicians to assist with a bighorn sheep research project in the Highland Mountains in southwestern Montana. The objective of this project is to evaluate the efficacy of management actions to increase bighorn sheep lamb survival and population performance, and ultimately inform management directed at restoring bighorn sheep populations. The primary duties will include assisting with lamb capture operations, monitoring collared lambs and adults, observing animals to identify clinical signs of disease, and investigating bighorn sheep mortality events. Dates of employment are April 10 – August 31, and the end date is flexible. This is the second year of a five-year research study.

Qualifications:

1. Must have demonstrated experience hiking with a backpack off-trail in steep, rugged terrain and comfortable working in high elevation, backcountry terrain.
2. Must have demonstrated experience using radio telemetry to locate animals in mountainous terrain.
3. Experience conducting animal necropsies and collecting biological samples is preferred.
4. Must have demonstrated experience performing detailed and accurate data collection and data entry.
5. Must have experience safely operating 4WD vehicles in rough, mountainous terrain.
6. Must be willing and able to work as part of a team for long and irregular hours to include weekends, evenings, early mornings, and holidays.

Pay will be $13.50 per hour, plus housing provided at the field site. Housing is located in Melrose, MT. There is not cell service on site, but internet, and all other house amenities are provided. Field vehicles will be provided.

To apply, please send cover letter describing relevant experience, resume, and contact information for 3 references to Hannah Manninen, Hannah.manninen@mso.umt.edu