
Technicians are needed to assist researchers at Haleakala National Park (Maui, Hawaii) with all aspects of the Argentine ant control project. The Argentine ant is an aggressive and destructive invasive species that has become established in two areas of the park and is a serious threat to native invertebrate populations. Technicians will do the preliminary fieldwork necessary for treating the margins of the ant population by aerial broadcast of a granular bait. The work includes delimiting the two ant populations, marking and mapping their boundaries (using GPS), assisting with helicopter operations during treatment, and monitoring the populations before and after treatment. Work may also include assisting with study plots to test new control strategies. The work involves extensive hiking in steep, rocky, unstable terrain. One population is at approximately 7,500ft elevation, while the other is located on the rim of the volcano (at about 9000ft) and extends down the crater wall to the crater floor (at about 7500ft). The work is taxing, but gives one the opportunity to work and live in one of Hawaii’s few remaining intact ecosystems. Technicians will work a 40hr week and will be responsible for making their own housing arrangements. Park housing can be rented (about $400/mo), if the technician wishes to do so. Haleakala National Park is somewhat isolated; the entrance is located at the top of a road that climbs from about 3000ft to 6800ft via 10 miles of switchbacks. There is no public transportation system on Maui, and technicians will need to arrange their own means of transportation if they opt to live outside of the Park.

Required qualifications: Bachelors degree in biology or related science, or currently in Bachelors degree program with a major in biology or related science. Excellent physical condition, with ability to hike up to 10 miles a day over rough terrain (including steep slopes, and rocky, unstable ground) carrying a pack weighing up to 40 lbs. Interest in Hawaiian ecosystems, invertebrates, alien species, or conservation issues. Ability to work independently. Willingness and ability to periodically work alone in isolated areas. A valid drivers license.

Please describe in resume or cover letter: academic background in biology, experience with GPS technology, relevant fieldwork or athletics, first aid certification, etc.

For more information contact: Will Haines, phone: 808-572-4472 or email: whaines@hawaii.edu

To apply, send resume, brief cover letter, and names and phone numbers of three references to:
Mr. Will Haines
Research Dept.
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(or as MS Word attachments via email to whaines@hawaii.edu)

Screening will begin on March 24, 2003.