



Monarch Joint Venture Job Posting

Position Title: Field Technician, Monarch Butterfly Habitat Monitoring (6 positions)

Position Status: Seasonal, full-time

Location: California

Project Dates: March 7 – Mid-September, 2022; or March 7 - Mid-June 2022

Compensation: \$15/hr

Priority Application Deadline: January 9, 2022 (open until filled)

Travel required: Yes, extensively throughout California

Position Summary

Join the growing team of the Monarch Joint Venture, a nonprofit dedicated to conserving the monarch butterfly migration across North America. We are hiring up to three teams of field technicians (two persons each) to study monarch butterfly breeding and migratory habitat throughout California in 2022.

Positions are full time, approximately 40 hours per week, with likelihood of paid overtime up to 50 hours per week. Field technicians must be able to commit to the full monitoring season (aside from one week of unpaid leave for technicians working through mid-September; to be coordinated among field teams), drive long distances, and live away from home during project dates. Technicians will travel extensively throughout the state collecting biological data on monarch butterflies, milkweed, and other floral resources.

Field technicians will begin virtual training on March 7 and be expected to arrive in south-central California on March 14 to begin in-person field training. Field vehicle, fuel, and lodging costs are covered by the project grants. Travel to and from the training and work area at the beginning and end of the field season, food, and additional personal travel costs are the responsibility of the employee. Field season lodging will include a variety of hotels, houses (e.g., refuge bunkhouses), and camping throughout the sampling region.

We will have two active projects during the 2022 field season, one evaluating pollinator habitat on randomly selected (often quite remote) points on California Bureau of Land Management land and another evaluating public and privately owned habitat restoration or enhancement projects in the southern half of California. The application form will ask for your availability for employment length, which are as follows (dates subject to change):

- **Project period 1: March 7 - Mid-September (~6 months)**
- **Project period 2: March 7 - Mid-June (~3 months)**

Responsibilities

(A) Conduct monarch and vegetation surveys throughout California (85%)

Navigate to pre-selected sites to perform monarch and vegetation surveys. Describe features of each site, count monarch host plants (milkweeds), identify plant species and record their frequency, examine milkweeds for monarch eggs and caterpillars, and count adult monarchs. Specific duties include:

1. Training and field season preparation (5%). General onboarding procedures including organizational operations and safety training. Learn standard operating procedures for site visits. Prepare travel schedules and site survey routes, and contact site managers/owners.
2. Field data collection (65%). Conduct field surveys. Data collection involves walking a series of transects at each site and recording the information within 1-m² quadrats, examining milkweed for monarch eggs and larvae within a 1-ha area, and recording adult monarchs observed along a transect or incidentally.
3. Data and field logistics management (15%). Maintain, organize, and enter field data on tablets/computers (provided by MJV) throughout the season. Maintain a travel schedule and secure lodging as the season progresses with guidance and direction from the field supervisor. Conduct data proofing and correction to ensure data accuracy. Maintain regular contact with MJV staff and field site contacts.

(B) Train others in Integrated Monarch Monitoring Program protocols (5%)

Technicians may assist in training local conservation staff and volunteers to conduct monitoring and enter data following Integrated Monarch Monitoring Program (IMMP) protocols. Trainings include informal field excursions and connecting trainees to IMMP resources for further learning.

(C) Additional duties as assigned (5%)

Conduct additional duties related to this field study as the need arises. Tasks may include, but are not limited to, contacting site managers for habitat management data, organizing or generating media content, or preparing data or data collection tools for future use.

Qualifications

Essential Skills: Field technicians must have experience in the fields of biology, botany, wildlife, or another related field. Technicians must be able to work both independently and in close collaboration with a teammate. Work will entail long days of driving and collecting plant and insect data in direct sunlight, high temperatures, and buggy or other harsh conditions. Technicians must be comfortable interacting with private landowners and available to spend overnights in distant or remote locations (e.g., camping). The positions require excellent verbal communication skills, attention to detail, and the ability to enter data accurately onto a mobile device and computer. Valid driver's license.

Desired Skills: Experience collecting plant and insect data. Knowledge of California milkweed species and other flora. Experience with GIS and navigating with a GPS or compass. Coursework or experience identifying plants and insects.

Equal Opportunity Employment

The Monarch Joint Venture (MJV) is an equal opportunity employer. As such, MJV offers equal employment opportunities without regard to race, color, gender, religion, age, nationality, social or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, pregnancy, disability, veteran status or any other characteristic protected by law. These opportunities include all terms, conditions, and privileges of employment, including but not limited to recruiting, hiring, job placement, training, compensation, benefits, discipline, advancement, and termination. All employees are expected to adhere to this policy.

The Monarch Joint Venture is an at-will employer. All persons hired will be required to verify identity and eligibility to work in the United States and to complete the required employment eligibility verification form upon hire.

COVID-19 Safety & Prevention

The Monarch Joint Venture implements a COVID-19 Safety and Prevention Plan for all employees. All employees are trained on COVID-19 and our safety and prevention policies and procedures. The MJV will provide our COVID-19 Safety and Prevention Plan to any job seekers upon request.

How to Apply

- In lieu of a formal cover letter, all applicants must fill out the following application form, which includes three short-answer questions:
<https://forms.gle/uQWDnsg79st4jgUX8>
- In addition to the form, all applicants must submit a **resume/CV** and contact information for **two references** as a single PDF document titled "**LastNameFirstName_FieldTechnician**" to jobs@monarchjointventure.org. The subject line of your email should read "**Field Technician Application.**"
- Any questions about the job or application process may be sent to jobs@monarchjointventure.org