

**Assistant Mammalogist
Illinois Natural History Survey (INHS)
Prairie Research Institute (PRI)
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

INHS is seeking one individual to conduct field surveys for threatened and endangered mammals, especially bats, within Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) project sites as part of the Statewide Biological Assessment Program at INHS.

Project description: This IDOT funded, long-term program focuses on biological assessments throughout the state of Illinois. This position will be located in Champaign, Illinois.

Job description: Provide expertise to IDOT regarding the status, distribution, and biology of mammals in Illinois, particularly threatened or endangered species. Conduct field surveys and/or habitat assessments for threatened or endangered mammal species at IDOT project sites, with emphasis on bats, and prepare technical reports based on these surveys. Supervise, train, and mentor other employees working on IDOT mammal surveys, ensuring field safety training is provided and protocols are followed by all team members. Assist other IDOT scientific staff as needed, or contribute to IDOT-related activities such as production of annual reports. As time permits and as long as all contractual obligations receive priority, may design and carry out independent research; apply for and obtain external funding; provide technical information in area of expertise; make presentations to service, nature, or scientific groups, schools, or other public meetings; and serve as a committee member or officer to professional societies. May conduct independent research if contract time permits, with approval by supervisor and contract PI, if funding is available to buy out contract service. Travel throughout the State of Illinois working outside, including at night and under adverse weather conditions, as projects require.

Qualifications - Required:

- Bachelor's degree in wildlife ecology, biology, zoology or an appropriate biological science.
- Five years of experience with collecting and analyzing scientific field data for mammalogical surveys, including mist-netting and habitat assessments for bats and live-trapping for small mammals.
- Experience with planning, coordinating, and conducting field surveys, as well as with writing technical reports documenting results and research plans.
- Must have expertise in identifying mammals of the Midwest, particularly bats, and familiarity with their ecology, natural history, and habitat requirements.
- Willingness to travel overnight throughout Illinois and work under adverse weather conditions; must have a valid driver's license.
- Familiarity with the scientific literature and bibliographic databases is expected.
- Must have a well-developed knowledge of the taxonomy, ecology, natural history, and design of field surveys for the mammals of the Midwest.
- Must possess the physical skills necessary to collect field samples and conduct research.

- Must demonstrate an ability to author technical reports, work independently and also as a team member, and to keep up with advances in methods and techniques for field surveys of mammals.
- Must demonstrate an ability to think creatively and ensure the highest possible standards of quality, safety, and ethics with little supervision.
- Must meet federal requirements for handling and identifying threatened and endangered species, particularly bats so they can be added to the federal permits for INHS. Must have or be willing to receive rabies vaccinations.

Qualifications – Preferred:

- Master's degree in wildlife ecology, biology, zoology or an appropriate biological sciences.
- Experience supervising professional staff, hourly employees and/or students in the field.
- Experience with emerging survey methods, such as acoustic surveys for bats.
- Knowledge of Midwestern flora, including identification of tree species, suitable for making habitat assessments.

Salary: \$38,000 - \$40,000 per year commensurate with experience. This is a regular, academic professional, full-time grant supported 12-month position. The estimated starting date is June 1, 2016.

Benefits: Generous vacation and sick leave. State Universities Retirement System. Group health, dental, vision and life insurances.

Applications must be received by April 7, 2016. To apply, all candidates must submit an online profile through <https://jobs.illinois.edu>. Qualified candidates must upload a letter detailing qualifications noted above, curriculum vitae, and the names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of three professional references. All requested information must be submitted for your application to be considered. For further information please contact Angela Young, Human Resources, Illinois Natural History Survey, 217-244-7793, younga@illinois.edu. For technical questions regarding this position, please contact: Jean Mengelkoch, Search Committee Chair, jmengelk@illinois.edu.

“The University of Illinois conducts criminal background checks on all job candidates upon acceptance of a contingent offer.”

Illinois is an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, status as a protected veteran, or status as a qualified individual with a disability. Illinois welcomes individuals with diverse backgrounds, experiences, and ideas who embrace and value diversity and inclusivity. (www.inclusiveillinois.illinois.edu).