

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY WITH OFFICE OF KENTUCKY NATURE PRESERVES



Position: Natural Heritage Invertebrate Biologist (Environmental Scientist III)
Full-time Environmental Scientist III merit position with state benefits; 37.5 HR/WK
Salary range: \$3,845.56 - \$5,191.52 monthly
Applications due: 2/2/2025; position expected start date March 2025
How to Apply: <https://kypersonnelcabinet.csod.com/ats/careersite/JobDetails.aspx?id=66873&site=2>

Position Summary

The Office of Kentucky Nature Preserves protects some of the last remaining high-quality natural communities in Kentucky, monitors and recovers rare species and natural communities, conducts biological inventories of natural areas (private and public land) across Kentucky, and houses the state's natural heritage biodiversity databases. The Natural Heritage Invertebrate Biologist will coordinate and develop invertebrate conservation programs, conduct invertebrate survey work primarily for Hymenoptera, Lepidoptera and terrestrial snails, and work alongside with OKNP biologists on plant/pollinator projects throughout Kentucky. Extensive statewide travel, including routine and extended overnight travel, is required. Visit our website to learn more about our agency <https://eec.ky.gov/Nature-Preserves/Pages/default.aspx>

Duties include, but are not limited to

- Coordinating and developing terrestrial invertebrate projects, with a focus on globally rare insects as well as priority pollinators (i.e. Lepidoptera, Hymenoptera)
- Invertebrate inventories and assessments of natural areas across Kentucky
- Data collection/management
- Rare plant pollinator studies and data collection
- Assisting with vegetation plot sampling
- Terrestrial snail surveys



Qualifications and Minimum Requirements

- Bachelor's degree in biology, Natural Resource Management, Environmental Science, or related field (master's degree preferred).
- Five (5) years of experience in natural resource management, conservation planning, insect biology, or related field.
- Applicants must be able to use dichotomous keys to identify species. Priority will be given to those individuals who have strong Lepidoptera and Hymenoptera identification skills as well as some plant identification skills and knowledge of natural communities.
- Applicant must possess valid driver's license
- Applicants must be able to hike for extended periods of time under adverse field conditions and over uneven terrain
- Willingness and ability to travel overnight for up to a week at a time
 - state vehicle will be provided, meals and lodging will be reimbursed
- Seldom weekend or alternative hours may be required for specific projects

Working Conditions

- Selected candidates are/may be exposed to biting/stinging insects, venomous snakes, poison ivy, and adverse weather conditions (precipitation, temperature, and humidity extremes)
- Individuals will often work in remote areas away from facilities and roads.

How to Apply: Apply through the Kentucky state government website
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Contact tara.littlefield@ky.gov with any questions about the position.