



JOB DESCRIPTION

SALT MARSH RESEARCH TECHNICIAN

TEMPORARY – SUMMER 2026

POSITION SUMMARY

The Buzzards Bay Coalition is seeking two Salt Marsh Research Technicians who will support the Organization's objectives to better understand the current state of salt marshes across Buzzards Bay and how they respond to human-related impacts over time. Research Technicians will collect high quality scientific data to support the 8th consecutive year of the Coalition's long-term salt marsh monitoring project.

Research Technicians are responsible for coordinating and conducting elevation, vegetation, and fauna (including crabs, ribbed mussels, and snails) surveys at 13 salt marsh sites around the Buzzards Bay Watershed from Westport to Falmouth. This position is a combination of fieldwork, equipment management, and data entry, with potential opportunities to assist with additional fieldwork (hydrology, soil characteristics, restoration and water quality monitoring) as needed. Research Technicians must be able to strictly follow procedures, work independently, pay attention to detail, accurately record and enter data, and be flexible to changing field conditions. This is physically demanding work that requires bending and standing for long periods of time, carrying equipment (>25lbs) to remote sites, and maintaining a positive attitude in adverse field conditions (e.g. heat, rain, mud, bugs). Footwear (neoprene scuba boots, muck boots, and waders) will be provided, but Technicians must supply their own clothing they are comfortable getting wet, muddy, or ripped.

This is a temporary position expected to run from June through late August with flexible start and end dates. Work schedules are based around the tides, will vary from week to week, and include a combination of field and office tasks. Working outside of normal business hours, including some weekends, is required. This position is based out of the Coalition's Science and Field Operations Center in Marion, MA, but requires a reliable personal vehicle to get to and from field sites (travel beyond normal commuting mileage will be reimbursed at the prevailing IRS rates and conditions).

RESPONSIBILITIES

Tasks include, but are not limited to:

- Collect field measurements of elevation, fauna (pit-fall traps, identification, and counts), and vegetation (identification, percent cover, stem height, and density) data
- Communicate with team members and manage workload to achieve a successful monitoring season
- Prepare, organize, and maintain supplies and scientific equipment
- Transcribe data sheets and upload photos to online database

- Occasionally assist with other science operations, Buzzards Bay Coalition organized outreach events, and Bay education events as needed

QUALIFICATIONS

- Scientific fieldwork or adjacent outdoor work experience is required
- Work experience or formal education in environmental science, marine science, or related field is required
- Enthusiastic, independent, well organized, detail oriented, and self-motivated
- Able to work long hours in the field under challenging physical conditions including heat, rain, mud, humidity, wet, poison ivy, bugs, and tick habitat
- Able to carry equipment equal to or greater than 25 pounds for a mile
- Must have own reliable transportation to commute to and from field sites (Travel to and from field sites from assigned BBC office will be reimbursed at the prevailing IRS rate per mile)
- Attention to detailed and familiarization with Excel data entry a plus
- Applicants with salt marsh vegetation identification will be given preference
- Familiarity with Buzzards Bay and Watershed is a plus

COMPENSATION

This is a temporary, at-will position, starting in June and ending in late August. The schedule is variable and will average about 35 hours per week at an hourly rate of \$23.50. If housing is needed, please state your interest in your application, as Buzzards Bay Coalition may be able to provide a cohousing accommodation at a BBC Reserve property for lower than market rent. No health insurance or other benefits are available. Travel from the Marion Science & Field Operations Center to field locations will be reimbursed at the prevailing IRS rate per mile.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Buzzards Bay Coalition is proud to be an Equal Opportunity employer. All qualified persons are encouraged to apply and will be considered without regard to race, national origin, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, age, religion, or veteran status.

TO APPLY

Interested applicants should send a cover letter, resume (*include relevant college classes taken, data analysis experience and field experience*), and contact information for three academic or professional references via email to:

Callista B. Macpherson
Research Assistant, Bay Science
macpherson@savebuzzardsbay.org