

**JOB ANNOUNCEMENT: SEASONAL BIOLOGICAL MONITOR**

**September - November 2023**

**Applications Due Date: Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**SUMMARY**

The Resource Conservation District of Monterey County (RCDMC) is hiring a full-time, seasonal field biologist to join our biological monitoring team that oversees invasive plant control, sensitive species protection, and flood management work along the Salinas River as part of the Salinas River Arundo Control and Restoration Program.

RCDMC has acquired funding to control invasive *Arundo donax* (arundo) on an apx. 3-mile stretch of the Salinas River between Soledad and Gonzales. In 2023, arundo control work will include mowing/mastication of apx. 105 acres of arundo. A Biological Monitor is needed to be on site during these work activities. Training will begin in early September 2023 and work is expected to go through mid-November 2023.

Opportunities for work on other RCDMC projects, such as the Salinas River Stream Maintenance Program, may arise in 2023 and beyond.

**ABOUT THE RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

RCDMC is a non-regulatory special district whose mission is to conserve and improve our natural resources, integrating the public interest in environmental protection with the needs of agricultural and urban users. We work collaboratively with public and private entities on resource conservation and environmental restoration projects throughout Monterey County. Our Salinas River invasive plant removal and vegetation management work began on the ground in 2014, with a goal of improving ecological conditions, reducing flood risk to adjacent landowners, and increasing water availability in the Salinas River. More information about RCDMC can be found at [rcdmonterey.org](http://rcdmonterey.org).

**JOB DUTIES**

Biological Monitors will work closely with RCDMC staff, wildlife biologists, and work crews to ensure vegetation management work proceeds in accordance with environmental permits. The Biological Monitor will learn the permit-mandated protective measures for wildlife and water quality, learn to identify species of concern, and conduct surveys for protected species. The Biological Monitor will also document project progress using the ArcGIS Field Maps mapping system.

Work will occur in the Salinas River on private property primarily between Gonzales and Soledad. A typical day will include commuting to the RCD office in Salinas to pick up a vehicle, or driving directly to the field site for an early morning arrival, surveying the day's work area for species of concern, meeting with the arundo control contractor before work begins for a daily check-in, remaining on site during work to assist contractors with work flow and ensure protective measures are followed, mapping project progress in ArcGIS Field Maps, and reporting on work activities at the end of the day.

## REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Self-motivated and able to work independently
- Excellent communication skills and problem solving ability
- Desire and ability to work long hours in the field and walk several miles in difficult terrain and hot temperatures, in the presence of heavy machinery and/or herbicide applicators, and around poison oak
- Willingness to work collaboratively and adaptively with RCDMC staff, contractors, and landowners
- Bachelors degree in biology, ecology, or other environmental sciences, or equivalent experience
- Field experience with California Central Coast vegetation and wildlife
- Experience with GIS technology
- Ability to interpret spatial information on maps, and good field navigation skills
- A valid driver's license, insurance, and a reliable form of transportation
- Ability to cope with possible last-minute schedule changes

## PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Ability to communicate in Spanish
- Previous biological monitoring or wildlife survey experience
- Experience working around large equipment and/or with vegetation management/construction contractors
- Experience using ArcGIS Field Maps or Collector

## COMPENSATION

Hourly wages depend on experience, and generally range from \$25-30 per hour. Overtime will be paid for work over 10 hours per day or 40 hours per week including travel time from the RCDMC office to work sites. Mileage in personal vehicles from the RCDMC office to work sites will be compensated if traveling in personal vehicles is deemed necessary. Lodging is not provided. For Seasonal Employees, RCDMC provides liability and Workers' Compensation coverage, minimum state-mandated paid sick leave, and tax-deferred savings account options.

**TO APPLY:** Send a single document (PDF preferred) including a cover letter describing previous relevant experience, interest in this position, availability, resume, and contact information for three references to Emily Zefferman at [emily.zefferman@rcdmonterey.org](mailto:emily.zefferman@rcdmonterey.org).

*The Resource Conservation District of Monterey County is an equal opportunity employer, and is committed to creating an inclusive work environment free of discrimination and harassment. Hiring decisions are made based on candidates' qualifications without regard to race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, genetics, veteran, parental, or disability status.*