



EDNA DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT INTERN POSITION DESCRIPTION

ABOUT THE ROLE

Conservation X Labs (CXL) seeks a passionate and creative summer intern to accelerate our product development for an eDNA workflow targeting salmonid DNA on our custom diagnostic platform, the Nucleic Acid Barcode Identification Tool (NABIT). The eDNA Design and Development Intern will be working with a fast-paced, interdisciplinary team of biologists and engineers on early-stage product development that unlocks eDNA applications from water systems. We are looking for someone who is comfortable communicating across disciplines and teams, loves tearing apart genetic problems and building solutions to complex molecular challenges.

This position will report to the molecular and business development directors at our laboratory in Seattle, WA, located in the heart of Fremont.

DUTIES

The eDNA Design and Development Intern will be responsible for assisting the molecular team with designing and testing DNA assays for the detection of various Pacific salmonid species, conducting sample workflow experiments, using equipment for collecting and filtering water samples from field sites (e.g. rivers, lakes, hatcheries, intertidal areas), and working with the engineering team to translate experimental outcomes into viable workflows that allow the detection of DNA from water filters in the field. They will be part of a team working towards this goal and will be expected to support others while contributing to the experimental design, conducting research relevant to the application and summarizing findings for internal or external communications.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Pursuing or recently completed an undergraduate degree in biology, conservation, biotechnology or equivalent. Persons currently pursuing a graduate degree may also apply.
- Smart, capable and excited to learn
- Willing to experiment, fail, and try again
- Ability to work across engineering and scientific disciplines, in small teams with enthusiastic co-workers.



- Willingness to spend an entire day in the field while handling portable and valuable equipment.
- Prefer experience in a molecular laboratory: DNA/RNA extraction, PCR (or any nucleic acid amplification reaction), sequence analysis and general laboratory safety.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please send a cover letter that explains why you fit what we are looking for, and resume to dna@conservationxlabs.org with “eDNA Design and Development Intern – [Your Last Name]” in the Subject Line of the email. You are welcome, but not obligated, to provide other links or attachments that would provide evidence of why you would succeed in this position.

Applications will be considered on a rolling basis until 5 PM PST, May 10th, 2024. Please note that we will start interviewing before the deadline and may fill the position before this date. Start date is after May 27th.

SALARY RANGE & BENEFITS

The eDNA Design and Development Intern will be a 10-week, 30 hours per week position ranging from June to August of 2024. Start and end dates as flexible, as well as the number of hours worked. A stipend of \$6600 will be provided.

ABOUT CONSERVATION X LABS

Conservation X Labs applies technology, entrepreneurship, and open innovation to source, develop, and scale critical solutions to the underlying drivers of human-induced extinction, whether in conservation or other fields. Conservation X Labs takes an approach to conservation that is technology- and innovation-focused, market- and scale-driven, and interdisciplinary. We believe this approach – one that addresses the underlying drivers of extinction rather than its symptoms, and one that takes a revolutionary over evolutionary approach – is the future of conservation, what we call Conservation 3.0. We source, develop, and scale new solutions through open innovation, directed engineering and technology development, product acceleration, and building the diverse community of solvers that will transform the field. Conservation X Labs operates as both a 501c3 non-profit organization and related a B-corporation.

CXL is committed to creating and cultivating a diverse workforce and inclusive environment where every employee and contractor has the right to work in surroundings that are free from all forms of unlawful or intentional discrimination. It is our policy to hire, promote, transfer, terminate, and make all employment related decisions without regard to race, creed, ethnicity, religion, national origin, sex, gender, or sexual orientation.

To learn more about our programs and mission, please visit our website: www.conservationxlabs.com.