Job Title: GIS Research Assistant/Drone Pilot

Location: Archbold Biological Station, Venus, Florida

Archbold Biological Station is seeking a bright, motivated GIS Research Assistant to join our team. Archbold Biological Station is a non-profit ecological organization, committed to conservation and collaborative research. As the GIS Research Assistant, you will be responsible collecting, processing, and analyzing spatial datasets using an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) to support ongoing ecological research projects at Archbold. An ideal candidate will be organized, detail-oriented, and interested in exploring the use of UAVs and other remotely sensed data to answer ecological research questions. Desired start date in September. **Posting will remain open until 8/28/23, applications will be reviewed as they are received.**

Essential Roles & Responsibilities

- Collect spatial datasets using an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) to support ongoing research activities at Archbold Biological Station and Buck Island Ranch
- Assist with offsite UAV data collection to support state agency contracts
- Perform other necessary field data collection to ensure accuracy of UAV datasets
- Manage and document all planned flights in accordance with any regulations and standard operating procedures
- Perform all processing steps needed to produce georeferenced orthomosaics with provided software and perform basic analyses
- Provide input to researchers on collection methods, analysis methods, and data products for projects
- Continue to research emerging technologies and make recommendations for future purchases
- Maintain, calibrate, and deployment tracking and oversight of all lab electronic equipment (UAVs, Trimble GPS, sensors, etc)
- Assist in other activities in the GIS lab as needed, including but not limited to support in spatial analysis, map making, GPS collection, setting up mobile field data collection apps.

Required Qualifications

- Bachelor’s degree in environmental science, biology, GIS, remote sensing, relevant field, or suitable coursework
- Experience with ESRI's ArcGIS software, including ArcGIS online, ArcGIS Pro, Survey123, FieldMaps
- Experience working with high resolution imagery
- An analytical mindset with the ability to prioritize and problem-solve, with little to no supervision
- Ability to independently research and master new software
• Proficient in MS Office (Excel, Access, Word etc)

Preferred Qualifications

• A passion for Archbold’s mission (interest or experience in biological research and conservation)
• Master’s degree in environmental science, biology, GIS, remote sensing, relevant field, or suitable coursework
• Experience working with UAVs.
• FAA part 107 Remote pilot license
• Experience doing independent fieldwork in off-road conditions, including operating a 4-wheel drive vehicle and GPS navigation in the field
• Experience with software for orthomosaic production using drone imagery
• Experience capturing and analyzing high resolution remote sensing imagery
• Experience processing and analyzing different types of remotely sensed data, including Lidar, multi-spectral imagery, and hyperspectral imagery
• Experience working with electronic equipment
• Ability to work extended periods independently and with initiative under minimal supervision
• Familiarity with ENVI
• Ability to perform basic automated scripting tasks, preferably in R or python
• Ability to perform assigned tasks with accuracy and attention to detail
• Ability to work safely and use best judgement with inclement weather
• Ability to work with multi-disciplinary research staff and outside agencies
• Excellent communication and collaboration skills
• We encourage candidates who can demonstrate passion and commitment to learning to apply.

This is a full-time position with benefits. Salary range is expected to be $38,000-$44,000 depending on experience. Please send a cover letter, resume, and a list of 3 professional references to gis@archbold-station.org by 8/28/23 to apply.

Archbold is committed to integrating diversity, equity, and inclusion principles into our organization. Archbold does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender identity, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, ability, ethnicity, political ideology, religion, national origin, and all other classifications protected by federal, state, or local law. If you are passionate about spatial data and want to make a meaningful contribution to ecological research, we encourage you to apply.

Please fill out this anonymous survey to contribute to our applicant database. Your responses will not be associated with your application or shared with hiring managers.