

Job Description:

Chainsaw Operator/Watershed Field Worker



WINTER RIVER - TRACADIE BAY
WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

General Description of Geographical Area

The Winter River-Tracadie Bay Watershed is located on the north coast of Prince Edward Island, just east of the center of the province. It covers approximately 13,400 hectares and 1,800 hectares of bay. It is the principal source of potable water for the City of Charlottetown. The Winter River-Tracadie Bay Watershed Association was formed in 2008 to protect and enhance the health and aesthetic qualities of the Winter River-Tracadie Bay watershed. Then in 2016, we became a registered charity. The watershed includes communities such as Brackley, Union Road, York, Suffolk, Pleasant Grove, Grand Tracadie, Corran Ban, Mill Cove, Donaldston, Tracadie Cross, and Blooming Point.

Accountability

The Chainsaw Operator is accountable to the Field Supervisor.

If the position of Chainsaw Operator is combined with the role of Field Supervisor or Assistant Field Supervisor, then the individual will report to the Watershed Coordinator.

Responsibilities

We are seeking qualified applicants for the role of Chainsaw Operator, for the summer and/or fall of 2021, to carry out restoration projects throughout the watershed area under the guidance of the field supervisor. Depending on the qualifications of applicants, the Chainsaw Operator position may be combined with the role of Assistant Supervisor. We require at least one individual who has already completed an approved chainsaw training course. However, someone who has extensive chainsaw experience and is willing to take the approved course when it is offered next, may be considered for one of the positions (to begin after completion of the course).

- The chainsaw operator is responsible for the care, maintenance, storage, and handling of the chainsaw when assigned for a project. This includes being responsible for gas and oil supply for daily use and informing the field supervisor of any safety features that have broken.
- Assess all work sites for current safe work conditions (incl. tree conditions and ground conditions) and take precautions to improve safety of a site if it is deemed to have safety issues during initial assessment.
- Explain to supervisor onsite their plan for how chainsaw activities will be completed, so supervisor understands and can plan duties for other staff.
- Carry out activities such as cutting standing dead trees in riparian zones, cutting fallen trees from streams, small patch cuts in aging forests, and cutting coniferous branches for use in brush mat construction.
- When chainsaw skills are not required, the individual will join the rest of the work crew in other activities such as tree planting, erosion control, installing brush mats, improving fish habitat, working with basic hand tools such as shovels, saws, axes, loppers, pry bars, etc.
- Possible participation in other projects, such as our water monitoring program, public education campaigns, or water conservation program, depending on individual skills and abilities.
- During all activities, the individual must follow all workplace safety procedures, such as wearing personal protective equipment, ensuring that other individuals maintain a safe distance from the cutting area, and any COVID-19 related protocols (ex. Physical distancing, hand washing, mask wearing during certain situations).

Qualifications

Essential Qualifications

- Ability to handle physical tasks such as walking for extended periods in various outdoor habitats (fields, woods, streams, etc.) and frequent lifting of heavy items.
- Chainsaw safety training course and experience
- Supply own transportation to job sites within the watershed.

- Provide own clothing, rubber boots, hats, etc. *Personal protective equipment (chainsaw boots, chaps, helmet, eye protection, ear protection) and waders will be provided.*
- Ability to work in various weather conditions.
- Ability to work on a team and support team members to complete challenging projects in a timely manner.

Assets Qualifications

- Background in biology, wildlife conservation, environmental science, watershed enhancement, or similar.
- Experience using a chainsaw in stream habitats.
- First aid training
- Supervisory experience
- Residence within the watershed area.

Work Term

Depends upon candidate availability, specifics of grant funding, weather factors, and performance of individual during core field work season.

- Start date is anticipated to be between April 26 and May 17.
- For a current student, term will end in late August, or may transition to part time hours during school year.
- For a recent graduate, work period is 16 to 30 weeks.
- For an experienced adult (who does not qualify for any wage subsidy programs), work period is 12 to 20 weeks.
- Work term may be extended based on satisfactory performance, candidate skills, and additional funding.

Hours of work

Staff generally work 40 hours per week, with some variation depending on weather conditions and specific projects. Start times are generally 7am or 8am (with earlier start times during hottest time of summer), and end times at 3:30 or 4:30 respectively. Work is generally completed Monday to Friday, but depending on specific projects, rarely weekend work may be required.

Salary

Salary range starts at \$16 per hour and increases based on qualifications and experience.

Other

- Must provide own transportation, mileage will be paid for travel between work sites. Employee is responsible for mileage costs to reach the first place of work for the day.
- Provide own clothing and footwear appropriate for field work and weather conditions.
- Must have own cell phone during field work, for safety and essential communications.
- Waders and personal protective equipment will be provided for use during field activities.
- Depending on qualifications of supervisor and members of the work crew, the positions of Field Supervisor and Chainsaw Operator may be combined.
- WRTBWA is an equal opportunity employer. However, government funding programs that are the core source of money for staff salaries have varying requirements for participants, primarily based on age and work experience. To be considered for all potential programs, please indicate your age in your covering letter.

To apply

Send a résumé and cover letter to Sarah Wheatley, Watershed Coordinator

630 Suffolk Road, Dunstaffnage PEI, C1C 0P6 OR info@WinterTracadie.ca

- Applications will be received and evaluated until April 1 or a suitable candidate is found.
- Learn more about our association by visiting www.WinterTracadie.ca or [Facebook.com/WRTBWA](https://www.facebook.com/WRTBWA)