Vermont Center for Ecostudies- Conservation Ecologist

Organizational Background:
The Vermont Center for Ecostudies (VCE) is one of the preeminent wildlife conservation organizations in New England that strives to advance the conservation of wildlife through research, monitoring, and community engagement. From mercury pollution in songbirds to the migratory ecology of insects, our biologists investigate the intricate networks of ecological relationships on many scales. Against the pressing backdrop of climate change, we seek to add a Conservation Ecologist to our staff who will develop and lead a new research program that both compliments and expands our existing expertise. Our staff is committed to creating a compassionate workplace culture and values the physical and emotional wellbeing of all employees. We support a healthy work-life balance at VCE by embracing flexible work arrangements that facilitate our increasingly complex lives, including those of working parents.

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status. We are committed to achieving an inclusive, anti-racist, and non-discriminatory working environment, and we wish to connect with a diverse pool of candidates in this search.

Position Summary:
VCE seeks a creative and motivated landscape ecologist whose research will focus on pressing ecological and environmental issues of the Northeast and aims to affect real world changes in on-the-ground conservation and management. With support from the Director of Conservation Science, the Conservation Ecologist will have the opportunity to create a research program based on their expertise and interests. The successful applicant will be familiar with our core strategic goals of conducting pioneering science, achieving measurable conservation outcomes, and broadening community science opportunities, and will incorporate these goals into their anticipated research program. The Conservation Ecologist is expected to apply for grant funding to support their research, publish results, commit to open access science practices, develop community science opportunities, and disseminate their findings through a variety of outreach channels. Strong consideration will be given to those who can demonstrate a passion for science communication and informing decision makers through their work.

Duties and Responsibilities:
- Develop and maintain an innovative research program
  - Establish an applied research program focused on conservation needs of the greater New England region
  - Expand upon VCE’s current in-house expertise
- Develop and disseminate conservation strategies
  - Work with conservation practitioners to develop and implement best management practices based on the latest, sound science
- Pursue, secure, and manage grants
Work to identify and secure grant opportunities that help support the proposed research program

Create opportunities for community science engagement
  - VCE is passionate about engaging the community in science and conservation. The successful applicant's proposed research should include opportunities for community scientist participation

Commit to open science standards and publishing results in peer-reviewed journals
  - VCE is an Open Science organization that seeks to maximize the benefits of our research by sharing our data and expertise with colleagues and stakeholders

Commit to diversity, equity, and inclusion
  - VCE is committed to diversity, equity and inclusion in the field of ecology. The successful applicant is expected to consider opportunities for marginalized and underrepresented communities in their community science programs and communications.

Contribute to VCE communications
  - VCE maintains a diverse array of communication outlets including monthly field guides, social media and blog posts, newsletters and annual reports. The successful applicant is expected to contribute to these with engaging research updates as appropriate.

Manage seasonal staff and interns
  - Our new Conservation Ecologist should be motivated to pass on their expertise through the supervision and enrichment of field technicians, interns and volunteers

Conduct outreach
  - The Conservation Ecologist is expected to actively seek out new partnerships and to conduct outreach to a wide audience including stakeholders, volunteers, policy makers, land managers, and the scientific community

Term:
This is a full-time position with an expected salary range of $60,000-$65,000. In addition, this position will receive program seed funding, health care (including household coverage), dental, vision, floating holidays and retirement benefits.

Qualifications:
- M.S. in ecology or a relevant scientific field (Ph.D. preferred)
- Professional background that includes an integrative and interdisciplinary approach to conservation science
- Mastery of conservation ecology and applied science as well as a solid working understanding of sampling design and statistical methods
- Experience with project management, science funding and information technology
- Demonstrated ability to secure external funding and publication record consistent with career stage
- Ability to effectively communicate in order to complete and present complex reports, and published papers in clear and concise language.
- Experience motivating others to enact conservation outcomes
- Demonstrated experience engaging with varied stakeholders in conservation (e.g. state, federal, and local governments, NGOs, and business).
**Application Requirements:**
Please send a cover letter, C.V., and an up to three-page statement of research interests and how they may be applied to addressing conservation concerns in the greater New England region to rrebozo@vtecostudies.org. Please write “VCE Cons_Eco_Application” in the subject line. Application review will begin March 14 and continue until the position is filled.