



**Job Title:** Biological Field Technician

**Location:** Western Mojave Desert, Field Position

**Job Type:** Seasonal Full-Time

**Applications Due Before:** 5pm on April 22, 2026

**Approximate Work Period:** May 5 to July 2, 2026. If you are available earlier or later, please note your availability dates in your submission.

### About MGSCC

The Mohave Gound Squirrel Conservation Council (MGSCC) is a nonprofit organization functioning to assure the perpetual survival of viable populations of Mohave Ground Squirrels (MGS; *Xerospermophilus mohavensis*) throughout their historical range and any future expansion areas.

### Position Overview

We are seeking 2-4 motivated and proactive Biological Field Technicians to join our research teams. This role is designed for individuals eager to learn and to contribute to the science of the species. We currently have two grant-funded projects searching for Technicians:

1. Experiments in Translocaiton and Captive Propagation of MGS
2. Long-term Monitoring for MGS

Each project has study design(s) completed by the U.S. Geologic Survey, whose Principal Investigators also participate in training field crews, completing fieldwork efforts, and analyzing data resulting from the fieldwork. MGSCC completes grant and field management for these projects.

### Key Responsibilities

Both Projects. Assist permitted Field Lead Trappers in

- ◆ Establishing trapping grids for live trapping in 2026, prior to start of live trapping. Live trapping will occur May 8-17.
- ◆ During live-trapping, collecting data for species captured and opening, checking, and closing trap grids.
- ◆ After live-trapping, breaking down and/or moving trapping grids.
- ◆ Track MGS that were fitted with collars and transmitter for a period of approximately 4 weeks, May 18-June 20.
- ◆ Assisting in live-trapping to recover transmitters, approximately June 20-July 5.
- ◆ Learn and utilize
  - live traps of various sizes. Small mammal handling equipment for weighing and measuring, attaching transmitters, PIT tags, ear tags, and genetic sampling.
  - Software such as FieldMaps and Survey 123 for data collection.
  - Tracking receivers and antenna combinations, and how to fine tune for precise locations.



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### Experiments in Translocation and Propagation

Additional tasks to those tasks listed above include:

- ◆ Serving as a second driver for animals being transported to the Living Desert for the Propagation experiment. A permitted biologist will also accompany the animals.
- ◆ At translocation sites,
  - Assist in installing remote game cameras, swapping SD camera cards, downloading cards, and checking camera settings.
  - Assist in refilling bait tubes on a regular basis.
  - Assist in installing artificial burrows for MGS at translocation recipient sites.

### Long-term Monitoring

- ◆ Assist in maintaining and cleaning supplies in the field, making sure teams have sufficient supplies.
- ◆ Retrieving older field supplies so they are not left in the field. Recycling and taking old equipment to the landfill.
- ◆ Maintaining inventory at Ridgecrest storage garage.

### **Qualifications**

- ◆ College degree or nearing completion. Related degree, field or course work preferred (wildlife, environmental science).
- ◆ Strong enthusiasm for fieldwork and a willingness to learn. Ability to hike multiple miles daily through difficult terrain and potential exposure to heat, snakes and other hazards.
- ◆ Experience driving in difficult off-road conditions.
- ◆ Ability to work long days and hours if necessary. Trapping will occur 7 days/week, while other tasks provide days off.
- ◆ Excellent communication skills and a team player mindset. Reliable and organized.

### **Benefits & Perks**

Current students: internship with stipend at \$2,000 per 5 days.

Graduated students: hourly rate of \$25 plus overtime according to California state law.

No dental/vision or vacation benefits provided for this seasonal opportunity. Workers Compensation and health insurance provided as required by California law.

### **Equipment provided:**

- ◆ 4x4 rental or MGSCC-owned truck for project use, gas credit card provided. Driving records may be requested or checked as a condition for hire.
- ◆ Lodging provided at field house in Ridgecrest, CA (including access to house facilities such as shower, laundry, full kitchen, secure parking).

### **How to Apply**

Interested candidates should submit their availability, resume and a brief cover letter explaining why they are interested in this position to the Grant Coordinator, Kathryn Simon at [kathy.simon@mgsconservation.org](mailto:kathy.simon@mgsconservation.org).