

Vermont Atlas of Life - Biodiversity Data Scientist - Job Description

Title: Vermont Atlas of Life – Biodiversity Data Scientist

Position Summary:

The Vermont Center for Ecostudies (VCE) is one of the preeminent wildlife conservation organizations in New England. We are seeking a Biodiversity Data Scientist to work with our growing team of developers and scientists working on the Vermont Atlas of Life (VAL; <https://val.vtecostudies.org>) at the Vermont Center for Ecostudies (VCE; <https://vtecostudies.org>). This is a unique opportunity to work in a collaborative environment with a dynamic team working on biodiversity informatics, research, and conservation. Located across the river from Dartmouth College in the vibrant community of White River Junction, our scientists and staff are committed to creating a [workplace culture that respects and celebrates diversity](#), and values the wellbeing of all employees. We accomplish this by offering flexible work arrangement options such as telecommuting and alternative work schedules that help foster a healthy work-life balance.

The VAL Biodiversity Data Scientist will lead our analysis of VAL datasets with data-modeling, visualization, and applied statistical methods to extract meaning from the emerging large biodiversity data – the Vermont Atlas of Life with extension to other projects at VCE possible. The ideal candidate will be comfortable with relational databases, familiar with writing efficient code and documentation, will develop and use sophisticated APIs, and will help build workflows to process large data and present products.

The Biodiversity Data Scientist will work with the VAL team to build, extend, and support new data products in support of regional biodiversity research and conservation. The overarching goal of this position during the first year is to help create data products for an online dashboard of Vermont biodiversity indicators, some driven by live data, and a report on the state of Vermont's biodiversity conservation.

Term: This is a full-time, benefits-eligible, 12-month term position beginning in January 2021 with the goal of becoming a permanent position contingent on continuation funding. The position will report to the VAL Director and the Senior Software Engineer. The work for this position can be done remotely, and we strongly encourage applicants who would work remotely to apply.

Minimum Qualifications: Master's degree or equivalent experience in a field related to the environment or data science with strong knowledge in biological sciences. Three to five years of experience developing scripts and code to analyze and visualize environmental data. Demonstrated experience developing websites and visualizations. Experience developing sophisticated tools using APIs and online mapping platforms. Experience with basic research principles and methods, applied statistics, data acquisition and sampling methods required.

Knowledge of ecological systems, conservation issues, and biodiversity in the Northeast preferred.

Here at VCE we know that biological communities and organizations are strongest and most resilient when they are most diverse. We invite you to join us, to engage us, to challenge us, and grow with us. If you thrive in a supportive environment where you are encouraged to follow your "big ideas" - and help others realize theirs - VCE is the place for you.

Application: Send a cover letter and CV or resume to kmcfarland@vtecostudies.org as PDF attachments by November 30.