

**Job Title:** Invasive Species Technician  
**Supervisor:** Invasive Species Specialist  
**Position Type:** Full-time, April-September, 2023  
**Deadline to apply:** February 3rd, 2023



**Organization and Program Description:**

The Kenai Watershed Forum (KWF) is an environmental nonprofit located in Soldotna, Alaska whose mission is "Working together for healthy watersheds on the Kenai Peninsula". For over a decade, the Invasive Species Program at KWF has played a vital role in preventing the spread of invasive species and addressing research and educational needs pertaining to non-native species on the Kenai Peninsula. Through this program, KWF focuses on the most harmful aquatic and terrestrial non-native species threatening salmon habitat on the Kenai Peninsula. For more information on KWF's projects and programming, visit [www.kenaiwatershed.org](http://www.kenaiwatershed.org).

**Position Summary:**

The Invasive Species Technician is a field-heavy, seasonal position (April- September, with potential to extend) reporting directly to the Invasive Species Specialist. The technician will assist the Kenai Watershed Forum's Invasive Species Specialist with a variety of tasks related to invasive species management and will be assisted in the field by an Invasive Species Intern. Field work will include surveying and monitoring for novel aquatic and terrestrial invasive species; treating known infestations of non-native species with a variety of tactics including the use of herbicide; engaging in community outreach/education activities as it relates to invasive species and ecosystem health; and assisting with assorted biological field work pertaining to other KWF projects and programming. The Invasive Species Technician will be expected to work independently, leading a small crew of up to 3 interns and up to 10 volunteers. The technician will become a Certified Pesticide Applicator through the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Appropriate training and resources will be provided by KWF during the certification process.

**Essential Job Functions:**

- Field activities related to invasive species eradication (60%)
  - Make use of a variety of tactics related to integrated pest management (IPM) including but not limited to manual, mechanical, and chemical methods
  - Safely and effectively use, transport, and store a variety of herbicides
  - Travel long distances to complete fieldwork on a daily basis
  - Make use of a variety of manually powered watercrafts including packrafts and canoes
  - Assist the Invasive Species Specialist in developing a work-plan for the 2021 field season
  - Travel via float plane to remote water bodies to conduct early detection surveys within aquatic environments
  
- Community Outreach and Education (20%)
  - Communicate regularly with community members, volunteers, and project partners concerning invasive species projects on the Kenai Peninsula
  - Assist in the organization and implementation of community weed pulls within various communities on the Kenai Peninsula
  - Develop and implement outreach and educational social media content for the KWF invasive species program

- Data and Equipment Management (10%)
  - Maintain accurate records of field work and collect data using Field Maps (ESRI supported data collection software) and iPads
  - Take photos of project work and treatment sites for use in monitoring records and project reports
  - Record herbicide data in accordance with standards established by AK DEC
  - Maintain field equipment related to invasive species management
- Other duties related to KWF's mission and project work (10%)
  - Become familiar with KWF's projects and programs and assist in their implementation as needed
  - Assist in the planning and implementation of the Kenai River Festival
  - Attend and assist with KWF sanctioned events outside of normal work hours
  - Participate in regularly scheduled KWF staff meetings

## Qualifications

- Minimum Requirements
  - 1-3 years of experience in the following or closely related fields: botany, biology, environmental science, natural science, forestry, invasive species management
  - Excellent professional communication and interpersonal skills
  - Ability to be organized and to work independently and as a team
  - Hold a valid driver's license with a clean driving record and have the ability to drive multiple hours for work on a daily basis
  - Current or ability to obtain a State of Alaska Pesticide Applicator's License within two months of start date
  - Comfort working outside in bear country for multiple hours in varied weather and terrain
  - Willingness and flexibility to work long days (up to 10 hours)
  - Compliance with Kenai Watershed Forum and partner policies and procedures
  - Ability to work outdoors and walk 2+ miles and have the physical skills to perform restoration activities involving lifting (50lbs), bending, digging, working with tools, etc.
  - Comfortably and safely operate paddle-crafts such as canoes, kayaks and pack-rafts
- Desired Skills
  - Familiarity with integrated pest management strategies and early detection and rapid response (ED&RR) tactics
  - Plant identification skills and knowledge of Alaskan plant communities (aquatic and terrestrial)
  - Familiarity with a variety of ESRI software (ArcGIS Online, ArcMap, Field Maps) and experience using GIS to collect, manage, and present field data
  - Experience operating all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) in a variety of terrain and conditions
  - Positive, professional and enthusiastic attitude
  - Sense of humor, flexibility, and ability to exercise independent judgement
  - Enthusiasm for KWF's mission and invasive species management

**Wages and Benefits:** 40 hours/week, April-September (with possible extension). Rate of pay dependent on experience and ability to acquire a pesticide applicator's license.

**To apply, send resume, cover letter, and contact information for three references to [maura@kenaiwatershed.org](mailto:maura@kenaiwatershed.org) by COB Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023.**