

## Groundwater Research Assistants – 3 positions

Location: Modesto, California

Status: Part-time, Non-Exempt

Start date: ASAP

Duration: Role Dependent, April 2024 – September 2025

Reports to: Restoration Ecologist

A thriving future for California's environment and communities requires bold vision, creative problem-solving, and relentless determination. This is a critical decade for action and River Partners is growing our team of talented, tenacious change-makers to meet the challenge head on. Join us!

### Who We Are

**River Partners brings life back to California rivers.** We've revitalized more habitat along impaired California rivers than any other entity in the western U.S., having led hundreds of projects across nearly 20,000 acres throughout California. We restore thriving native forests and ecosystems that support imperiled wildlife, improve flood safety, boost the state's climate resilience, replenish and improve freshwater resources, create open space for communities, and build stronger local economies. Since 1998, we have pioneered an innovative, entrepreneurial approach to conservation, combining modern farming, cutting-edge science, and diverse partnerships.

### Position Description

The Groundwater Research Assistants' primary duties are to assist in a groundwater research project led by Dr. Horacio Ferriz, Professor at CSU Stanislaus. There are three main roles to apply to: 1) Field surveys, 2) Computer-based data retrieval, and 3) Computer-based analysis. An applicant can be chosen to fulfill more than one role.

- 1) Field survey work involves surveying wells, measuring depth to water, and quarterly surveying of water levels – all work mostly on Fridays (full 8 hours)
  - Up to 40 hours total during April/May 2024
  - Up to 48 hours from August – November 2024
  - Up to 60 hours from September 2024 – September 2025 (2 full days per quarter)
- 2) Computer-based data retrieval work involves searching databases from the US Geological Survey, and pre-processing the data for use in the hydrologic analysis.
  - Up to 80 hours across April to May 2024

- 3) Computer-based analysis involves significantly more complex computer-based image processing and hydrologic analysis.
- Up to 140 hours from August to November 2024
  - Up to 140 hours from February to May 2025
  - Up to 80 hours from August to November 2025.

### **Position Qualifications**

#### **Field Surveys**

- Safety conscious
- Able to work in the field
- Able to start work early (7 to 8 am) at Dos Rios Ranch. Most work will be done on Fridays, during a 9-hour work day (including an hour for lunch)
- Provide own transportation to and from field site
- Enrollment in a Community College STEM Associate degree
- Basic trigonometry and algebra knowledge
- Two reference letters from recent Community College instructors

#### **Computer-Based Data Retrieval**

- Able to work independently
- Able to complete tasks on time
- Able to write scientific reports
- Enrollment in a University STEM BS degree
- Working knowledge of Geographic Information Systems (experience in GIS, Remote Sensing, and/or Hydrology would strengthen the application)
- Access to a computer
- Two reference letters from recent university instructors

#### **Computer-Based Analysis**

- Able to work independently
- Able to complete tasks on time
- Able to write scientific reports
- STEM BS degree or senior-level enrollment in a University STEM BS degree
- Working knowledge of Geographic Information Systems (experience in GIS, Remote Sensing, and/or Hydrology would strengthen the application)
- Access to a computer
- Two reference letters from recent university instructors or work supervisors

Position is part-time and cannot exceed more than thirty hours a week. Hours per week for the Groundwater Research Assistants will likely not exceed 15 hours. Full field days starting at 7 am are expected for this position. Housing is not provided.

For interested applicants, there is an option to work additional hours each week on separate River Partners' projects once Groundwater Research Assistant duties have been performed. Supplemental work may include vegetation surveys, data entry, checking of wildlife recording equipment, and office work.

### **Required Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities**

- Basic understanding of hydrological concepts.
- Willingness to work long hours in the field, including in hot weather, and necessitating early mornings.
- Ability to collaborate with diverse team members with poise and respect.
- Basic understanding of statistics and experimental design.
- Proficiency in MS Office applications.
- Excellent verbal, analytical, organizational, and written skills, including data visualization to technical and non-technical audiences.
- Integrity and ethics beyond reproach.

### **Other Qualifications**

- Valid California driver's license with no restrictions.
- Commitment and enthusiasm to carry out River Partners' mission.

### **Compensation**

The anticipated rate for this Groundwater Research Assistant position as well as optional work on other River Partners' projects is \$20.00 per hour.

### **Location**

This position is based in Modesto. Computer-based work may be done remotely. Travel to field sites near the San Joaquin National Wildlife Refuge is required.

### **To Apply**

Please submit a cover letter, resume, and contact information for two references in a PDF saved with your last name and job title separated by an underscore (e.g., Smith\_GroundwaterResearchAssistant) to [jobs@riverpartners.org](mailto:jobs@riverpartners.org). When applying please say which of the three roles you are interested in (can apply for all three).

**Application Deadline:** Rolling until filled

### **Working Conditions/Physical Effort**

Overall: Office and outdoor working conditions.

Does this job have any travel requirements?  Yes  No

Percentage of time spent traveling:

- 10-25%  
 26-50%  
 >50%

Travel is by (check all that apply):

- Car  
 Airplane  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Describe the specific job duties that require the physical demands selected below:**

- Working on a restoration site with agricultural-type equipment.
- Working at a computer, using a copier, and reading documents.

Does this job require that weight be lifted or force be exerted? If so, how much and how often? Check the appropriate boxes below.

	Amount of Time--% of Work Week			
	None	Under 1/3	1/3 to 2/3	Over 2/3
Up to 10 pounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Up to 25 pounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Up to 50 pounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Up to 100 pounds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
More than 100 pounds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

How much on-the-job time is spent in the following physical activities? Show the amount of time by checking the appropriate boxes below.

	Amount of Time--% of Work Week			
	None	Under 1/3	1/3 to 2/3	Over 2/3
Stand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use hands to handle or feel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reach with hands and arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climb or balance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Talk or hear	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Taste or smell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

How much noise is typical for the work environment of this job? Check the appropriate level below.

- Very quiet (examples: forest trail, isolation booth for hearing test)
- Quiet (examples: library, private office)
- Moderate noise (examples: business office with computers and printers, light traffic)
- Loud (examples: metal can manufacturing department, large earth-moving equipment)
- Very loud (examples: jack hammer work, front row at rock concert)

How much exposure to the following environmental conditions does this job require? Show the amount of time by checking the appropriate boxes below.

	Amount of Time--% of Work Week			
	None	Under 1/3	1/3 to 2/3	Over 2/3
Wet or humid conditions (non-weather)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Work near moving mechanical parts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Work in high, precarious places	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fumes or airborne particles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Toxic or caustic chemicals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor weather conditions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extreme cold (non-weather)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extreme heat (non-weather)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Risk of electrical shock	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Work with explosives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Risk of radiation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vibration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Does this job have any special vision requirements? Check all that apply.

- Close vision (clear vision at 20 inches or less)
- Distance vision (clear vision at 20 feet or more)
- Color vision (ability to identify and distinguish colors)
- Peripheral vision (ability to observe an area that can be seen up and down or to the left and right while eyes are fixed on a given point)
- Depth perception (three-dimensional vision, ability to judge distances and spatial relationships)
- Ability to adjust focus (ability to adjust the eye to bring an object into sharp focus)
- No special vision requirements

**River Partners is an Equal Opportunity Employer**

River Partners is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action (EEO/AA) Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, sexual



orientation, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, pregnancy, disability, medical condition religion, age, military or veteran status, or any other protected group status or non-job related characteristic as directed by law.