

# Inwater Research Group, Inc.

A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

**Inwater Research Group, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Jensen Beach, Florida whose mission is foster marine and coastal conservation through integrated research and education.**

## **Title**

Environmental Specialist

## **Location**

St. Lucie County, Florida

## **Period**

Full-time Hourly Position

Start date ASAP (Spring 2023).

## **Job Summary:**

The environmental specialist position is a full-time, hourly position. The environmental specialist will be responsible for supporting the IRG team in year-round sea turtle removal and seasonal nesting beach activities as part of the St. Lucie Power Plant Intake Canal Project. More information about this project can be found here:

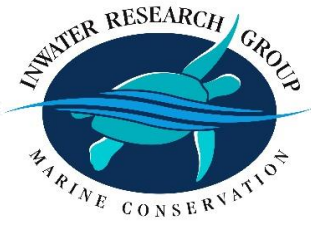
<https://www.inwater.org/portfolio-items/st-lucie-power-plant/>.

## **Key Responsibilities:**

- Capturing sea turtles primarily using tangle nets (with occasional use of Dip Net and Hand Capture techniques) as part of a 40+ year sea turtle capture and monitoring project
- Perform standardized data collection on captured sea turtles, including morphometrics, applying tags, and visual health assessments
- Capture, tag, and release of other species such as goliath grouper, sharks, rays, etc.
- Perform stranding and recovery duties of sick, injured, or deceased sea turtles
- Perform extensive morning sea turtle nest monitoring surveys
- Identify species (leatherback, loggerhead, and green) and determine nesting activity of all crawls encountered
- Verify, mark, observe, fate, and excavate marked nests
- Data entry and QA/QC for multiple projects and databases
- Basic maintenance and upkeep of equipment used (ATVs, nest markers, etc.)

## **Other duties could include but are not limited to:**

- Lead public sea turtle walks
- Follow protocols and search methods for sighting protected species
- Wherever necessary, implement required mitigation measures to avoid interference or negative impacts on protected species
- Document data in an organized manner



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## Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree or higher in a biology field is required
- Experience handling live, healthy, wild-caught sea turtles is required
- Experience identifying nesting crawls for Loggerhead, Green, and Leatherback turtles is required
- Must be a proficient swimmer
- Must be comfortable working on and around small vessels (< 26ft long)
- Must be able to work independently without daily direct supervision
- Must be a team player and a good communicator
- Must be able to lift 100lbs and assist moving animals exceeding 300lbs
- Must be safety conscious
- Must be able to work a flexible schedule, including weekends and holidays
- Must have a valid driver's license
- Must have flexibility for odd, unexpected, and long working hours and ability to work outdoors in extreme conditions (inclement weather, heat, humidity, insects, etc.)
- Experience utilizing various in-water sea turtle capture methods is highly desired
- Experience handling large marine animals (sharks, goliath groupers, rays, etc.) is desired
- Experience verifying, marking, and excavating Loggerhead, Green, and Leatherback turtle nests to Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission INBS standards is desired
- Experience working on medium to high-density sea turtle nesting beaches (~800 crawls/km in a season) is desired
- Experience using ATVs is desired
- Freediving experience or training is desired
- Experience operating and trailering small vessels (< 26 ft long) is desired
- We are a small non-profit, where a diversity of skills (grant seeking/writing, statistical analysis, fundraising, website management, etc.) is favored
- Open to US citizens and/or international citizens with appropriate visas/paperwork prior to hiring

## Compensation

This is a full-time, hourly position beginning at \$17.75/hour with the possibility for overtime.

## Benefits:

After the initial introductory period is met, the position will be eligible for paid holidays, accrued paid sick and vacation time, and a company partially matched SIMPLE IRA.

## How to Apply:

Please submit a cover letter, resume/CV, and three (3) references to Ryan Welsh ([rwelsh@inwater.org](mailto:rwelsh@inwater.org)).

Specify in the subject of the email what position (Title) you are applying for.

If applying for multiple positions, please send applications separately.

This position will remain open until filled.

**Applicants lacking adequate experience or application materials will not be considered**