

Job Description (2024)

Bear Technician (Kananaskis Region)

[Government of Alberta](#)

Kananaskis, AB

Full-time, Temporary

\$24.56 - \$30.32 an hour (2024)

Working mainly in Kananaskis Country, the Bear Technicians are part of a small group of dedicated staff and Conservation Officers committed to maintaining public and bear safety.

Under the direction of the Human Wildlife Coexistence Team Lead and the Conservation Officer team, you will obtain and document daily bear locations throughout the Kananaskis area both visually and with the use of telemetry equipment. You will be investigate and respond to bear sightings, as well as monitor bears near facilities and highways. You will also be applying conditioning techniques on bears to maintain public and bear safety. Throughout fulfilling these responsibilities, you will regularly interact with the public providing information and education.

Primary responsibilities of the Bear Technicians will be to:

- Monitor marked and collared grizzly bears near facility zones and natural areas;
- Respond to grizzly bears in and around facility zones or along roadsides;
- Coordinate management actions to shepherd bears out of "red zones" (a.k.a "no go zones") as required;
- Interact with the public in association with responses to bear encounters and sightings;
- Maintain accurate records of bear sightings and management actions;
- Fulfill regularly scheduled work shifts which best compliment the schedules of Conservation Officers and other staff;
- Respond to bear reports and sightings, allowing Conservations Officers to respond to serious occurrences, such as public safety incidents, enforcement, or land management issues;
- Coordinate with staff to deliver and circulate daily updates of bear locations and activity.
- Manage GPS collar and reported bear data

Secondary responsibilities of the Bear Technicians will be to:

- Respond to grizzly bear reports/complaints outside of the primary response area (e.g. Canmore, East Kananaskis);
- Respond to other wildlife complaints;
- Assist with any serious bear incidents in the Kananaskis region;
- Remove Buffalo Berry and other attractants in targeted areas;
- Safely check on deployed bear traps;
- Assist with capture and handling of bears as required.

Qualifications

Required:

- At least 2 years experience working with and around bears
- Extensive knowledge of bear safety
- Class 5 driver's license
- Standard First Aid and CPR Level C
- Defensive Driving Certificate
- Valid Firearms Licence
- Experience with radio telemetry and mapping techniques

Assets:

- Experience working with bears and other large carnivores in a research or management capacity
- Experience with firearms
- Wildlife chemical immobilization experience
- Knowledge of aversive conditioning techniques and the Kananaskis area
- Experience communicating to the public

Competencies

- **Agility** - You will be required to anticipate, assess and readily adapt to changing situations and effectively work in a changing environment as it relates to working with bears. The ability to work within variable environmental conditions are required.
- **Drive for Results** - Balance work with current resources will allow you to achieve results that align with the goals and objectives of the Bear Program.
- **Develop Self and Others** – You will be required to operate independently and as part of a dynamic team. Maintaining effective communications and safety protocols with co-workers is essential.
- **Build Collaborative Environments** - Your contributions to the work environment will allow people to work collaboratively and productively to achieve the desired outcomes of the program.
- **Develop Networks** – You will be required to maintain excellent communication with staff and the public as well adapting to cross-jurisdictional incidents.
- **Systems Thinking** – Technicians will be required to quickly synthesize and assess dynamic situations and prioritize and direct staff actions to achieve the goals of the bear program.
- **Creative Problem Solving** – You will be required to quickly and creatively develop action plans in dynamic situations.

This is seasonal employment typically running from May through October.

Hours of Work : 36.25 hours per week