



Position Announcement

Field & Laboratory Technician

The Henry's Fork Foundation (HFF) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to conserve the unique fisheries and aesthetic qualities of the Henry's Fork Snake River watershed. We are a purpose-driven organization that uses science-based collaboration with varied partners to achieve our mission. We value empathy, teamwork, ambitious and creative ideas, and a desire to learn, grow, and excel. Our Science and Technology team conducts long-term monitoring and applied research to inform management of this world-class trout fishery. We are seeking a technician to join the team for the 2026 field season to assist in completing various tasks associated with our DIRT (Developing Infrastructure to Reduce Temperature and Turbidity) project.

Organization: Henry's Fork Foundation

Location: Ashton, Idaho (Fremont County)

Position Type: Full-time seasonal: 32–40 hours per week, March–November 2026, with some flexibility.

Compensation: \$15-20/hour, depending on experience

Reports to: Aquatic Ecology Program Manager (Dr. Jack McLaren)

Position Summary

We seek a Field & Laboratory Technician to support water quality monitoring, sediment research, and environmental DNA (eDNA) sampling across the Henry's Fork watershed and Island Park Reservoir. This position combines field sampling with in-house laboratory analysis, offering experience in multiple techniques relevant to aquatic ecology and fisheries science.

Primary Responsibilities

Field Sampling (~60% of time)

- Collect suspended sediment concentration (SSC) samples and discharge measurements at 6 locations with challenging access
- Assist with weekly water quality profiles at Island Park Reservoir using YSI multiparameter sonde
- Collect eDNA water samples for fish and invertebrate monitoring using filtration protocols
- Operate boats on a reservoir and wade in wadeable streams
- Navigate to remote field sites using GPS; document site conditions
- Fish measurement at fish ladders
- Livestock fence repair

Laboratory Analysis (~30% of time)

- Process SSC samples using US EPA Method 160.2 (vacuum filtration, gravimetric analysis)
- Maintain sample chain-of-custody; prepare eDNA samples for shipment to contract laboratories
- Calibrate and maintain field instruments (sondes, ADCP, filtration equipment)
- Follow QA/QC protocols; flag anomalous results

Data Management (~10% of time)

- Enter field and lab data into databases; maintain organized records
- Assist with equipment inventory and supply ordering

Required Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in biology, ecology, environmental science, fisheries, or related field (or equivalent experience)
- Experience with field data collection in aquatic environments
- Ability to work independently and follow detailed protocols
- Valid driver's license; ability to operate 4WD vehicles on forest roads
- Physical ability to hike to remote sites, wade in streams, and lift 50 lbs
- Strong attention to detail and organizational skills

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience with water quality sondes (YSI, Hydrolab, or similar)
- Experience with discharge measurement (ADCP and flow meter)
- Laboratory experience with gravimetric or wet chemistry methods
- Familiarity with eDNA sampling protocols and contamination prevention
- Boat operation experience; willingness to obtain Idaho boater education card
- Interest in coldwater fisheries conservation

Work Environment

- Field work in variable weather conditions (rain, heat, early-season snow)
- Peak season (April–June) requires 40+ hours/week; slower months may be part-time
- Occasional early mornings or weekend work during intensive sampling periods
- In person, office/lab located at HFF headquarters in Ashton, ID

To Apply

Send resume, cover letter, and contact information for three references to jack@henrysfork.org. Applications reviewed on a rolling basis; position open until filled. Start date: March 2026.

Henry's Fork Foundation is an equal opportunity employer.