

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title:	Ecologist/Fauna Spotter-Catcher
Location	Armidale Branch – Moree/Narrabri based
Position reports to:	Branch Leader
Key working relationships:	Project managers and all other GeoLINK employees, clients, sub-consultants and stakeholders

ROLE

Ecologists/ Fauna Spotter Catchers required to assist in the delivery of ecological surveys required for the construction stage of a large infrastructure project.

The role involves undertaking pre-clearing ecology surveys and clearing supervision to actively search for and relocate fauna of all family groups (frogs, reptiles, mammals, birds), particularly threatened species, prior to, and during vegetation clearing to minimise fauna injury and mortality.

AREA	RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES
Business Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Attend daily GeoLINK and contractor project pre-start meetings; signing on and completion of a daily start card. ▪ Assist with pre-clearing surveys of the project site including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Searches for threatened flora species; ○ Weed mapping; and ○ Identification/mapping of habitat trees. ▪ Prior to vegetation clearing undertaking diurnal pre-clearing surveys, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Binocular inspection of trees for arboreal fauna and nests/dreys (particularly Koalas). <i>NB: Systematic tree search from all sides, branches and forks.</i> ○ Flush surveys in areas of dense groundcover/ shrubbery. ○ Leaf litter and log searches with a rake/ shovel for reptiles, frogs and small mammals. ▪ Clearing supervision: perform regular searches for fauna, as clearing progresses. <i>NB: As each tree is removed, visibility to adjacent trees will improve so it's important to continue binocular inspections.</i> ▪ Two-stage clearing: co-ordinate with the clearing contractor two stage clearing i.e. non-habitat trees first, then two nights later (48 hours) habitat trees. <i>Spray paint the date of stage one clearing on the tree truck.</i> ▪ Search habitat trees for fauna during the second stage of clearing (actively searching hollows). <i>Request good hollows to be relocated as habitat outside the clearing area.</i> ▪ Implement any project specific fauna protocol. ▪ Document all results of pre-clearing inspection results and any fauna relocation (including photos and map/ GPS locations).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assist with traditional ecological consulting tasks, as required such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fauna survey e.g. spotlighting, call playback, Elliot A/B trapping, wire cage trapping, pitfalls, harp trapping, hair tubes, remote cameras, Anabats etc. ○ Mapping and data analysis using ArcGIS.
Teamwork	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Build and maintain strong working relationships through effective teamwork. ▪ Maintain regular verbal communication with team members and the clearing crew.
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adhere to GeoBIZ guidelines (GeoLINK's minimum quality assurance standards).
Work Health & Safety (WHS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adhere to all WHS statutory guidelines, company requirements and obligations.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

- Class C Driver Licence and experience in operating 4WD vehicles.
- Construction Induction Training Card (White Card).
- Ability to complete electronic (georeferenced) field data.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

- Tertiary qualification in ecology, environmental or applied science, natural resource management or a related discipline, from an accredited institution.
- Wildlife handling/ conservation qualification.
- First Aid Certificate.

SKILLS & EXPERIENCE - ESSENTIAL

- Experience as an ecologist or fauna spotter-catcher.
- Sound knowledge of techniques, and experience in all aspects of fauna rescue and handling. Experience in undertaking ecological field surveys is desirable.
- High level fauna identification skills, including identification of threatened species and their habitats. Knowledge of botanical identification skills is desirable.
- Knowledge of flora and fauna of the NSW North Western Area.
- Understanding of and experience in application of relevant environmental legislation.
- Ability to operate a 4WD vehicle and other electronic field equipment i.e. 2-way radios.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including interpersonal.
- Have the ability to work effectively within a multidisciplinary team.
- Thorough understanding of WH&S requirements and obligations.

SKILLS & EXPERIENCE - DESIRABLE

- Basic GIS skills (ArcGIS)

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

- Regular travel, typically throughout NSW mid north coast, NSW northern tablelands and northern NSW, with stays away from home for extended periods, is required.
- Work outside of regular hours of operation is required.

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

- Be available to commence work shifts at short notice, equipped with required tools.
- High level of self-discipline and initiative to perform tasks with minimal supervision.
- Share GeoLINK's values and ethos.

APPROVED – BRANCH LEADER

Signature:

Date:

Name (print):

ACCEPTED – EMPLOYEE

Signature:

Date:

Name (print):