



Position & Candidate Specification

Career Opportunity This is not a Federal Position

We are currently accepting applications to fill the following vacancy:

Title of Position: Interdisciplinary Research Geologist/Biologist

Announcement Number: SITRUST-23-NMNH0414

Number of Vacancies: 3

OPEN DATE:	April 24, 2023
CLOSING DATE:	May 22, 2023
SALARY RANGE:	IS-1350/0401-11 (\$78,592)
POSITION TYPE:	Trust Fund
APPOINTMENT TYPE:	Temporary, NTE 1 Year
	Note: May be further extended up to 3 years based on availability of funds
SCHEDULE:	Full Time
DUTY LOCATION:	Washington, DC

Position sensitivity and risk:
[Non-sensitive \(NS\)/Low Risk](#)

Open to all qualified applicants.

The Smithsonian Institution provides reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. Applicants requiring reasonable accommodation should contact the point-of-contact listed in the “How To Apply” section below. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis. To learn more, please review the Smithsonian’s [Accommodation Procedures](#).

The Smithsonian Institution is an **Equal Opportunity Employer**. We believe that a workforce comprising a variety of educational, cultural, and experiential backgrounds support and enhance our daily work life and contribute to the richness of our exhibitions and programs. See Smithsonian EEO program information: www.si.edu/oeema.

KEY REQUIREMENTS

- Pass Pre-employment Background Check and Subsequent Background Investigation for position designated as low risk
- Complete a 1-year probationary period
- Maintain a Bank Account for Direct Deposit/Electronic Transfer
- Authorized to work in the U.S. without sponsorship

Conditions of Employment

COVID-19 VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS:

For the latest information on the COVID-19 vaccination requirements and its impact on your application, click on

Smithsonian Institution's [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

OVERVIEW

The Department of Mineral Sciences invites applications for three (3) positions of Interdisciplinary Research Geologist or Research Biologist in support of the National Museum of Natural History's Our Unique Planet initiative which is focused on understanding the origin of the unique features of our planet. Up to one position will be selected in each of following research areas: (1) Life and Minerals - study sedimentary sequences that span the time of the Great Oxidation Event (around ~2.3 billion years ago) to identify magnetofossils, or other fossil evidence of iron-biomineralizing microorganisms, (2) Continents - use the trace element and isotopic compositions of ancient rocks and minerals to investigate the evolution of the early Earth and the onset of modern-style plate tectonics, and (3) Oceans – conduct petrologic and mineralogical study of aqueously-altered carbonaceous chondrites and samples returned by the OSIRIS-REx mission to understand their history and the potential to deliver water to early Earth.

The successful candidate will have a track record of published research commensurate with level of experience. Demonstrated experience in a field directly relevant to the research areas (e.g., one or more of biomineralogy, mineral magnetism, biogeochemistry, silicic petrology, early Earth geochemistry, or chondrite petrology), as well as experience with relevant analytical techniques (e.g., SEM, EPMA, LA-ICP-MS, SIMS, magnetometry) is preferred. The Department of Mineral Sciences consists of experts in meteoritics, petrology, volcanology, and mineralogy, housing world-class collections in these areas. Applicants will have full access to existing analytical strengths of the Department of Mineral Sciences, with instrumentation that includes field emission electron microprobe and scanning electron microscope, confocal Raman microscope, FTIR, vibrating sample magnetometer, and biomineralogy laboratory. The ability to effectively communicate with a wide variety of audiences, including the public, is essential. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to participate in museum activities, such as educational outreach activities, and to be involved with professional associations and other organizations within the scientific community.

Full-time, temporary appointment to be filled initially for a period of one year beginning on or about July 1, 2023, renewable up to three (3) years upon satisfactory performance. Full Smithsonian benefits at the IS-11 level, equivalent to Federal GS-11. Proof of authorization to work in US required. The museum's authorized salary for this position at this time is \$78,592 per annum.

REQUIREMENTS AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Pre-employment Background Investigation must be successfully completed.
- Must be able to travel and work independently as well as within a team environment.

Knowledge and experience required for this role include but are not limited to:

Candidates may qualify for this position by demonstrating the experience outlined above, by completion of three full years of progressively higher-level graduate education leading to a Ph.D. or equivalent doctoral degree related to the position, or by a combination of experience and education.

Applicants, who wish to qualify based on education completed outside the United States, must be deemed equivalent to higher education programs of U.S. Institutions by an organization that specializes in the interpretation of foreign educational credentials. This documentation is the responsibility of the applicant and should be included as part of your application package.

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Any false statement in your application may result in your application being rejected and may also result in termination after employment begins.

The Smithsonian Institution values and seeks a diverse workforce. Join us in "Inspiring Generations through Knowledge and Discovery."

To Apply:

Please forward a resume, and cover letter to:	NMNHStaffing@si.edu Please include the position title: Research Geologist/Biologist in the subject line.
<p>Interested candidates should submit the following: (1) a cover letter expressing their interest and applicability for the position; (2) their curriculum vitae (CV) (annotated as explained below); (3) names and contact information for three referees; (4) a research statement; (5) a statement of how the candidate will enhance the diversity, equity, accessibility and inclusivity of the Museum; and (6) any other qualifications the candidate sees as relevant to the position.</p> <p>Please include the position title in the subject line of your e-mail and clearly indicate which of the three positions for which you are applying. CVs should include a description of your paid and non-paid work experience that is related to this job; starting and ending dates of job (<i>Month and year</i>); and average number of hours worked per week. Reference letters will be requested from select candidates at a later date. Qualified candidates who are referred to the hiring official will be asked to submit educational transcripts and proof of U.S. accreditation for foreign study.</p> <p>Applications received on or before Monday, May 22, 2023, at 5:00pm (EST) will be considered. Resumes should include a description of your paid and non-paid work experience that is related to this job; starting and ending dates of job (month and year); and average number of hours worked per week.</p> <p>Once the vacancy announcement closes, we will review your experience and credentials to determine if there is a match against the requirements of this open position. What to expect next: After our review of applicants is completed, qualified candidates' résumés will be referred to the hiring manager.</p>	

Relocation expenses are not paid.

What are Trust Fund Positions?

Trust Fund positions are unique to the Smithsonian. They are paid for from a variety of sources, including the Smithsonian endowment, revenue from our business activities, donations, grants and contracts. Trust employees are not part of the civil service, nor does trust fund employment lead to Federal status. The salary ranges for trust positions are generally the same as for federal positions and in many cases trust and federal employees work side by side. Trust employees have their own benefit program and may include Health, Dental & Vision Insurance, Life Insurance, Transit/Commuter Benefits, Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance, Annual and Sick Leave, Family Friendly Leave, 403b Retirement Plan, Discounts for Smithsonian Memberships, Museum Stores and Restaurants, Credit Union, Smithsonian Early Enrichment Center (Child Care), Flexible Spending Account (Health & Dependent Care).

The Smithsonian offers a number of exceptional benefits to its employees. Benefit programs include: Health, Dental & Vision Insurance, Life Insurance, Transit/Commuter Benefits, Accidental Death, and Dismemberment Insurance, Annual and Sick Leave, Family Friendly Leave, 403b Retirement Plan, Discounts for Smithsonian Memberships, Museum Stores and Restaurants, Credit Union, Smithsonian Early Enrichment Center (Child Care), Flexible Spending Account (Health & Dependent Care).