



SST SLOTH TECHNICIAN

LOCATION: SARAPIQUI, COSTA RICA

ABOUT SAVING SLOTHS TOGETHER (SST)

The **Saving Sloths Together (SST)** program was founded in 2017 by The Toucan Rescue Ranch and The Sloth Institute with the purpose of combining each organization's skills and knowledge to improve the process of sloth rescue, rehabilitation and release in Costa Rica. Together, we can combine the best medical care, scientific expertise, dedication and passion to provide the very best experience for every sloth needing help for a second chance at a life in the wild.

Toucan Rescue Ranch (TRR): was founded in 2004 for the purpose to rescue, rehabilitate, and release Costa Rican wildlife. TRR receives and cares for confiscated, sick, and injured wildlife from government agencies. We give the animals a loving home while providing appropriate medical treatment and rehabilitation in order to return them safely to the wild. TRR is a legal foundation in Costa Rica and is a 501(c)3 tax deductible non-profit. Our headquarters are in the San Isidro, Heredia in the central region of Costa Rica. The TRR Release Site is in Nazareth, Sarapiqui, Costa Rica.

The Sloth Institute Costa Rica (TSI) was founded in 2014 for the purpose of enhancing the welfare of captive and wild sloths through research and education. We also collaborate with Toucan Rescue Ranch on the rescue, rehabilitation and release of sloths. TSI is a legal non-profit in Costa Rica and fiscally sponsored by a US 501(c)(3) tax deductible non-profit. Our headquarters are in the Manuel Antonio rainforest maritime zone property at Tulemar Resort a short distance from Manuel Antonio National Park.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Sloth Saving Sloths Together program (SST) accepts up to 12 Sloth Technician a year to support the Field Supervisor in daily fieldwork activities at the TRR Sarapiqui Release Site. We are looking for an active, passionate individual to help us elevate the sloth release program.

The Sloth Technician absolutely must have the ability to work long days (12+ hours) with little time off. In addition, because most of this work will occur at night, this person will need to be able to work when tired and basically become nocturnal.

This person must be extremely dedicated to sloth conservation and willing to forgo personal comfort for the benefit of the animals. You will be hot, sweaty, wet, cold, eaten by mosquitos, sleepy, sore, and tired but you'll still feel that there is no other place in the world that you would rather be than watching sloths in the jungle. The ideal



person will sleep, breathe and dream about sloths! This is rigorous fieldwork with very limited hands on interactions with sloths.

Research & Fieldwork

- Conduct behavioral monitoring at night in the rainforest
- Daily Data Entry
- Assigned shifts will likely be long hours late in the evening until sunrise
- Using VHF radio telemetry

Animal Husbandry

- Preparing food/collecting wild food items for sloths – this can be a several hour job
- Feeding, enrichment, cleaning, and animal husbandry activities for sloths and various other species cared for at the TRR Release Site
- Assist in opportunistic capture, sample collection and release of sloths

Additional Tasks

- Helping the Toucan Rescue Ranch known as “Toucan Team” when necessary
- Completing assigned daily house chores to keep a hygienic living space
- Backup to other TRR/SST Release Site interns
- Assist in the feeding and care of birds in the pre-release and breeding enclosures
- Assist in the mapping of the plants and trees on the release site
- Assist in the monitoring of wild animals and identification of what they eat
- Assigned general facility maintenance (yard work, house chores, deep cleaning)

QUALIFICATIONS/EXPERIENCE

All applicants must be physically fit, healthy, have field research experience, behavioral research experience (Requires patience!), excellent communication skills, a strong interest in animal welfare and conservation and a great sense of humor.

Coursework or experience in zoology, environmental education, wildlife ecology, or a related field is required. Experience traveling to a tropical country and living in rainforest conditions are a plus.

Spanish language skills and experience working with VHF tracking technology are strongly recommended.

Basic SST Requirements:

- Must be 18 years or older



- Provide proof of emergency health insurance while in Costa Rica
- Provide proof of current tetanus and rabies vaccination
- Basic Spanish proficiency
- Moderate degree of fitness
- First-Aid course is highly recommended
- The ability to follow direction with attention to detail
- A positive “Can-Do” attitude and the ability to work well in a team environment
- Experience working with wildlife or animals is a plus

Ensuring Best Practice Implementation:

- Fostering practices that support and improve SST, TSI, and TRR in its goals, philosophy, and standards of wildlife care.
- Maintaining quality care by establishing and enforcing organization standards.
- Maintaining and sharing personal and technical knowledge by reviewing professional publications, establishing personal networks, benchmarking state-of-the-art practices, and participating in professional societies.

Additional Items to Bring:

- Snake proof boots
- Serious rain gear, including heavy duty rain poncho. You will be getting wet very often.
- Comfortable clothing, preferably quick-dry. Clothes get destroyed in the jungle, so bring plenty of shirts/tank tops and shorts.
- Large umbrella
- Water bottle
- Backpack (waterproof is ideal)
- Headlamps
- Binoculars
- Laptop
- Unlocked smart phone
- Waterproof case for phone

LOCATION & PROGRAM BENEFITS

The TRR Release Site is in Sarapiquí, about 1 ½ hours from the Toucan Rescue Ranch headquarters. The property is in a small village called Nazareth in the Sarapiquí region on the Caribbean slope of Costa Rica. This Release Site is remote and has a company vehicle for emergencies and animal related responsibilities.



Housing: Provided by TRR and the SST program. Includes utilities and Wi-Fi. All interns, technicians, and managers stay on the TRR Release Site grounds in shared housing.

Meals: Meals are provided 7-days a week. There are also local stores where you can buy additional food to supplement your meals. Please let us know if you are vegetarian, vegan, or have special dietary requirements.

Other: All other costs are to be paid for by the intern. This includes travel expenses, medical insurance, entertainment expenses, and a 5-day trip out of the country every three months to renew your visa. You are required to provide a housing maintenance fee.

APPLICATION

Term of Appointment: Must be willing to stay at least 3-months with an option for extension upon review.

To apply please send your CV and letter of interest to
volunteer@theslothinstitute.org
