

## **Minimum Qualifications for California tiger salamander**

Applicants will be considered qualified for a recovery permit or sub-permit if they meet the Service's most current qualification requirements. At a minimum, prospective applicants must:

- (1) Possess a Bachelor of Science degree in biology or a resource management-related field, or equivalent field/work experience;
- (2) Have completed course work in herpetology and study-design/survey-methodology, or equivalent field experience;
- (3) Have extensive, verifiable experience in the design and implementation of amphibian research (including a minimum of 5 surveys (during which the Sonoma tiger salamander was identified on at least one occasion), or 40 hours of trapping, handling, or identification in the field;
- (4) have captured and handled at least 25 individual Sonoma tiger salamanders (or similar species), including at least five (5) larvae;
- (5) have familiarity with suitable habitats for the species;
- (6) have familiarity with amphibians, native and non-native, that may co-occur with the listed species; and,
- (7) be able to identify the major vegetative components of vernal pool ecosystems in which Sonoma tiger salamander surveys or research may be conducted. Individuals not qualified to conduct scientific research or other activities covered under a recovery permit or sub-permit will be required to work under the supervision of a qualified, permitted individual until the minimum qualifications are met.

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