Field Technicians 2018 – Bird and Bee Habitat Retrospective Analysis

Job Description

We are seeking 3 highly motivated individuals to work on a project looking at the influence of habitat treatments on the bee and bird communities in eastern Oregon, northern Idaho, and western Montana. Work will be conducted between mid-May and late August. Technicians will be working individually and in teams to collect bee, bird, and vegetation data pertaining to a graduate research project on Forest Service and BLM land. Technicians will gain a variety of experience working with multiple taxa, and have the opportunity to see and work in many different areas across the intermountain west. Responsibilities will include navigating to pre-determined locations to conduct forest stand and habitat measurements, conducting point counts, and collecting bees via pan traps and aerial netting. In addition, technicians will deploy and check remote cameras to document mammal species presence in our study sites.

Due to the large study area, technicians need to be comfortable driving 4WD vehicles on both maintained and unmaintained roads. Our sites range in condition from dense forest stands and understory, to dry mixed forest-sage stands. Sites will also range from gentle, relatively flat slopes to steeper, more rugged terrain. Technicians need to be able to handle the changing environmental and weather conditions while carrying upwards of 30lb of gear while hiking 2-10 miles a day.

During time on, technicians will camp (tents provided) at central locations near study sites with occasional access to bunk houses. In all instances, techs will return to basecamp every day. Camp sites will be in remote locations with limited cellphone/internet access, and almost no access to running water or indoor plumbing during days on. A successful candidate will be comfortable camping in remote settings, and waking up and conducting work at dawn. Preference will be given to applicants with documented experience identifying birds by sight and sound, especially in western Montana or northern Idaho.

Requirements

- Possessing or pursuing a BS in Wildlife, Natural Resources, or a related field
- Coursework or equivalent experience in ornithology/bird identification.
- Valid driver’s license with a clean record.
- Personal vehicle for days off.
- Experience safely operating 4WD trucks on both paved and unpaved roads.
- Ability to navigate using a handheld GPS, topographic and other maps.
- Able to hike 3-10 miles a day in varying conditions while carrying upwards of 30lbs.
- Willingness to communicate clearly with interested public and various agency personnel about work activities.
- Able to cooperatively work in teams and independently.
- Willingness to work varying and irregular hour work days.
- Flexible to allow for changes in schedules due to working conditions.
- Documented remote camera work (optional).
- Documented vegetation identification experience/forestry work (optional).
- Documented bee work (optional).
- Experience with Microsoft Office (optional).
- First Aid/CPR or Wilderness First Aid Training (optional).

Tentative Start Date 5/16/2018

Pay Rate $400/week

To Apply
Email a cover letter, resume, and 3 references (contact names, emails, and phone numbers) in one document to Emily Oja at emily.oja@umontana.edu

Applicants will be reviewed as they are received and positions will be filled as soon as we identify qualified candidates. Final date to apply is April 1st, 2018.