Position Description:

Field technicians (7 positions) needed from late April/early May through late July/early August for a migratory songbird study outside of Roundup, Montana. Dates are flexible with advanced notice. The main goals of the study are to assess how migratory songbird assemblages in prairie/sagebrush ecosystems respond to grazing systems and the effectiveness of migratory songbirds as a tool for monitoring landscape changes in prairie/sagebrush ecosystems. Data collection will consist of early morning avian walking transect surveys and afternoon nest searching/monitoring. Major duties for all assistants include identifying prairie and sagebrush songbirds by sight and sound, identifying songbird nests and eggs, navigation with GPS units, data entry and proofing, and communication with project collaborators and other researchers in the area.

Qualifications:

Applicants should have or be pursuing a Bachelor’s degree in wildlife biology, ecology, or a related field. Good organizational and data recording skills, legible handwriting, the ability to work independently and within a team, and a willingness to travel and work an unusual schedule in sagebrush steppe habitats are essential. A positive attitude and sense of humor are a must for this position, as it requires living in close quarters and working long hours in an isolated environment. Experience identifying sagebrush steppe birds by sight and song is preferred, but a willingness and the capacity to learn them is required. Experience working with private landowners is highly desired. Applicants should be in good physical condition and able to walk long distances on an arid landscape. Applicants must be comfortable working near large livestock. Valid driver's license and familiarity with tricky road conditions required. Additional trainings and paperwork will be provided and require completion before the season begins.

Salary: ~$1,000/ two weeks. Housing is provided.

How to apply:

Applications will be reviewed as they are received. We strongly encourage you to apply early. Email a cover letter stating dates of availability, resume or CV, and contact information for 3 references to Kaitlyn Reintsma (asc@mso.umt.edu). Only applications with all attachments as a single PDF or Microsoft Word document will be accepted. Please put “Songbird Field Technician” in subject line. For further information about the project please visit us at http://www.cfc.umt.edu/asc/research/default.php.