POSITIONS FILLED



THE INSTITUTE FOR BIRD POPULATIONS



Bumble Bee Surveys in the Sierra Nevada

Spend your summer in the beautiful Sierra Nevada Mountains! We are looking for volunteer field technicians to conduct bumble bee surveys in recently burned landscapes on the Eldorado National Forest in the Sierra Nevada, California.

PROJECT DATES (tentative): May 15 2017 – August 15, 2017 (exact dates TBD, may be slightly later depending on weather).

TRAINING: The field season will begin with an intensive training session in bumble bee identification and survey techniques (which include capturing and handling bumble bees — most of which will be released unharmed), plant identification to species, and orienteering and safety. These skills will be honed further throughout the field season.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Technical field volunteers will spend most days conducting bumble bee surveys and vegetation surveys. Data entry will also be required. Work will typically follow a schedule of 7 days on, 3 days off.

An average day will include a 30 min - 1 hour drive and up to 40 minute hike through steep and difficult terrain to access survey areas. Surveys are conducted from approximately 8:00am through mid-afternoon. Data entry will be required on some days; a computer will be provided. Work will be moderately physically demanding involving off-trail hikes into survey sites and working in hot, dry conditions.

REQUIREMENTS: Experience in bee surveys is not required but would be highly favored, as would knowledge of Sierra Nevada flora. Previous ecological fieldwork in rugged environments is also preferred. Applicants should be physically fit enough to conduct surveys for approx. 8 hrs per day in rugged terrain with dense chaparral. A personal vehicle is highly desirable but not strictly required.

Field technicians should have a strong desire to learn more about bumble bees, bee ecology and plant identification, and a willingness to face the rigors of fieldwork with good humor. These rigors include physically demanding work, long work days, wet and cold weather, hot and dry weather, mosquitoes, occasional contact with bears and rattlesnakes, and housing that may be rustic and/or somewhat crowded.

POSITIONS FILLED

EQUIPMENT: Field technicians are expected to provide their own basic field gear, including hiking boots, daypack, water bottles, raingear, etc.

COMPENSATION: These are volunteer positions. Compensation includes the valuable skills you will develop, the satisfaction of joining important conservation efforts, and the joy of working with fun-loving people in the mountains. We will provide free shared housing, a per diem of \$39 (amounts to \$975 per month) to help with food and general living expenses, and mileage reimbursement for all project-related travel.

MORE INFORMATION: For more information about this IBP program, please see our http://birdpop.org/pages/sierraPollinators.php

TO APPLY: Please email a resume, cover letter, and the names, phone numbers and email addresses of two references to <u>Mandy Holmgren</u>, Biologist at: mholmgren AT birdpop DOT org.

