



# The INSTITUTE for BIRD POPULATIONS



## **Seasonal Field Technicians (2) for Meadow Restoration Point Counts in the Sierra Nevada, California**

Spend your summer doing field work in the beautiful Sierra Nevada Mountains! We are looking for **Seasonal Field Technicians (2)** to conduct **Point Count Surveys** in montane meadows in the Lake Tahoe region of the Sierra Nevada.

**PROJECT DATES:** June 1 – Aug 15, 2025.

**TRAINING:** The field season will begin with an intensive 2-week training session in visual and acoustic bird ID skills for those applicants who need training, as well as training in project protocols for conducting multi-species point counts, conducting habitat assessments, and field safety. Surveyors should have a good knowledge of the songs and calls of the Central Sierra before the training period begins and online review sessions of bird songs prior to the in-person training period will be available to technicians depending on experience.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Working primarily independently, biologists will visit and survey restored and unrestored meadow sites on Forest Service and private partner lands in the Central Sierra Nevada (primarily in the Truckee and South Lake Tahoe regions). On a typical day, surveyors will wake up before dawn, drive to survey sites (typically 30 min to 1.5 hr from crew housing or campsite), and spend the morning conducting multi-species point counts and rapid vegetation surveys. The afternoon will then typically be spent entering data into a database (computer provided). Work will be somewhat physically demanding, sometimes involving hiking (typically less than 2 miles) into survey sites through steep terrain. Surveys will require moving through flooded meadow areas and navigating stream crossings (waders will be provided). Off-trail travel will be required at many survey sites. Some long drives and occasional car camping may be required. The work schedule will follow a typical M-F work week.

**REQUIREMENTS:** We are looking for candidates with prior birding experience and familiarity with (or ability to quickly learn) the songs and calls of western montane birds. Valid driver's license and good driving record are required. Other requirements include a high enough level of physical fitness to perform the surveys, strong interpersonal skills, a love of adventure, and an appreciation for montane meadow landscapes. A willingness to face the rigors of fieldwork with good humor is extremely important; these rigors include physically demanding work, hot and dry weather, mosquitoes, poison oak and occasional contact with bears and cougars.

**EQUIPMENT:** Field technicians are expected to provide their own binoculars and camping gear, including hiking boots, knee high rubber boots, tent, sleeping bag, raingear, etc. Please speak to the interviewing biologist if this presents an overwhelming financial burden; it may be possible to find some personal gear for loan for the duration of the season. Additional survey gear including GPS, waders, and laser range finder will be provided by IBP. A personal vehicle is highly desirable but not strictly required.

**COMPENSATION:** These fulltime (40 hrs/week) IBP seasonal staff positions pay \$19.65/hr (before payroll taxes), and do not include fringe benefits. Free shared housing will be provided and project-related travel by personal vehicle, if applicable, will be reimbursed.

**TO APPLY:** Please fill out [IBP's job application form](#). Please select **Point Count-Sierra Meadows-Field Tech** when ranking this position. Your submission should include ranked position preferences, resume, cover letter, and the names, phone numbers and email addresses of up to three references. Professional references are preferred, but one reference may be a character reference. References are often slow to reply, so we encourage submitting more references so that your application can be quickly processed.

*IBP is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

*IBP complies with federal and state disability laws and makes reasonable accommodations for applicants and employees with disabilities. If you require reasonable accommodations for completing an application or participating in the application process, please call 707-789-3224 or email [IBPhumanresources@proton.me](mailto:IBPhumanresources@proton.me) for assistance.*