



# THE INSTITUTE FOR BIRD POPULATIONS



## Field Technicians for Spotted Owl Surveys in the Sierra Nevada

Spend your summer doing field work in the beautiful Sierra Nevada Mountains! We are looking for field technicians to conduct surveys for Spotted Owls on the Humboldt-Toiyabe, Stanislaus, and Tahoe National Forests.

**PROJECT DATES:** Start dates will be staggered from early April through mid-May, and positions will run through mid-August, 2026. Please indicate your earliest start date (April 1 or later) in your cover letter.

**TRAINING:** The field season will begin with a training period focusing on field skills and implementation of specific survey protocols

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Primary duties will involve conducting occupancy surveys on National Forest land. Survey work will be conducted at night and during early mornings, and will require hiking in rugged terrain, frequent long drives, and occasional car camping. Field technicians will also be responsible for data entry, maintenance of equipment and vehicles, and attending regular meetings. Field technicians working on the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest will be based in or near Truckee, CA; field technicians working on the Stanislaus NF will be based in or near Mi-Wuk Village, CA; field technicians working on Tahoe National Forest will be based in or near Camptonville or Grass Valley, CA. Field technicians on Humboldt-Toiyabe may have additional duties related to deploying and maintaining autonomous recording units (ARUs).

The crew working on Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest will also conduct **Flammulated Owl** occupancy surveys, and may have additional duties related to deploying and maintaining autonomous recording units (ARUs).

**REQUIREMENTS:** Primary requirements include a love of nature, enthusiasm about the outdoors, patience, observation skills, interpersonal skills, and a desire to learn more about the flora and fauna and the Sierra Nevada. A willingness to face the rigors of fieldwork with good humor is extremely important. Rigors include physically demanding work (i.e. able to hike long distances in steep terrain), navigating off-trail, wet and cold weather, hot and dry weather, mosquitoes, poison oak, occasional contact with bears, and housing that may be rustic and/or somewhat crowded. Previous hiking and outdoors experience are preferred.

**EQUIPMENT:** Field technicians are expected to provide their own binoculars, hiking boots and camping gear for car camping (tent, sleeping bag, raingear, etc.). Because the crews will be living in relatively remote areas, a personal vehicle is highly desirable, but not needed for completing work duties.

**COMPENSATION:** These fulltime (40 hrs/week) IBP seasonal staff positions pay \$20/hour (before payroll taxes) for first year field techs, and do not include fringe benefits. Free shared housing will be provided.

**TO APPLY:** Please fill out [IBP's job application form](#). When ranking the positions that interest you, please select one or more of the following IBP job codes:

- **SPOW-Humboldt-Toiyabe NF-Field Tech** (for work on Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest)
- **SPOW-Stanislaus NF-Field Tech** (for work on Stanislaus National Forest)
- **SPOW-Tahoe NF-Field Tech** (for work on Tahoe National Forest)

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 to ensure 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.*