Seasonal Field Biologist (Crew Leader) for Great Gray Owl-Spotted Owl Surveys in the Sierra Nevada

Spend your summer doing field work in the beautiful Sierra Nevada Mountains! We are looking for a Seasonal Field Biologist (Crew Leader) to conduct surveys for Great Gray Owls and California Spotted Owls in the Stanislaus National Forest.

PROJECT DATES (tentative, dependent on winter snowpack): March 1 – June 30, 2024, possible extension to Aug 15.

TRAINING: The field season will begin with a training period focusing on field safety and implementation of survey protocols.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Primary duties will involve training, coordinating and supervising a field crew conducting occupancy and reproduction surveys for Great Gray Owls and California Spotted Owls on National Forest land. Crew leaders will also be participating in survey efforts alongside their crew. Survey work will be primarily conducted at night, but some visits will be conducted during late afternoon or early evening hours. Irregular hours are expected through the season. Field work will require off-trail hiking, frequent long drives and occasional car camping. Work will be physically demanding. Crew leaders will also be responsible for assuring mouse care, data entry-proof, maintenance of equipment and vehicles are being attended to. Closely coordinating project activities with the Forest Service and IBP Staff will also be required. Survey work will occur primarily in the vicinity of Mi-Wuk Village, CA (Stanislaus NF).

REQUIREMENTS: Previous wildlife survey and back-country experience is required; previous supervisory experience is strongly preferred, as is experience surveying Great Gray Owls or Spotted Owls, including broadcast stations and follow up visits using mousing technique. A valid driver’s license and good driving record are required. Other requirements include strong interpersonal skills, a love of adventure, excellent communication and organizational skills, and a desire to teach field technicians and volunteers about Great Gray Owls, Spotted Owls and field biology. 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.

SCHEDULE: Typically 5 days on and 2 off.

EQUIPMENT: The crew leader is expected to provide her/his own binoculars, hiking boots and camping gear for car camping (tent, sleeping bag, rain gear, etc.).

COMPENSATION: This seasonal staff position pays $3,400 (before payroll taxes) but does not include fringe benefits. Field work vehicle and free shared housing will also be provided.

TO APPLY: Please email a resume, cover letter, and the names, phone numbers and email addresses of three references to Ramiro Aragon, Biologist at: raragon AT birdpop DOT org, cc'ing Mandy Holmgren, Biologist, at: mholmgren AT birdpop DOT org.

IBP values diversity and encourages people from all backgrounds to apply. All qualified applicants will receive consideration regardless of race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, or sexual orientation. Proof of COVID vaccination will be required.