

POSITIONS FILLED



THE INSTITUTE FOR BIRD POPULATIONS



CREW LEADER FOR RIPARIAN BIRD POINT COUNT SURVEYS AND WILLOW FLYCATCHER SURVEYS IN THE SIERRA NEVADA MOUNTAINS OF CALIFORNIA

IBP has one opening during spring/summer 2019 on a riparian bird survey project in the Sierra Nevada mountains of California. All of the survey work will take place in meadow areas on and around the Tahoe National Forest, as the purpose of the work is to monitor bird response to riparian restoration efforts in the Truckee River watershed.

PROJECT DATES: Approximately **May 15-July 26**, 2016 (exact dates TBD, may be ~ 1 week later dependent on weather)

TRAINING: The field season will begin with a training session in project protocols for conducting multi-species point counts and conducting habitat assessments. Surveyors are required to already be able to identify Sierra birds by sight and sound; applicants with previous point count experience will be strongly preferred.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Often working independently, the biologist will visit and survey meadow sites on Forest Service and land trust properties within or near the Little Truckee River watershed in the vicinity of Truckee, CA. The biologist will also plan, oversee, and assist 2 field volunteers with willow flycatcher broadcast surveys and territory mapping within the same meadow sites. On a typical day, the biologist will wake up before dawn, drive to survey sites (typically 30 min to 1 hr from crew housing), and spend the morning conducting multi-species point counts, and rapid vegetation surveys at each survey site. The afternoon will then typically be spent scoping out and planning the next day's surveys for themselves and the flycatcher crew, and/or entering data into a database. Work will be somewhat physically demanding, sometimes involving hiking (typically less than 1 mile) into survey sites through steep or brushy terrain. Surveys will require moving through flooded meadow areas and stream crossings (waders will be provided). Off-trail travel will be required at many survey sites. The typical work schedule will be 7-days on followed by 3-days off.

REQUIREMENTS: We are looking for a candidate with prior birding experience and familiarity with the songs and calls of western montane birds. Prior point count experience is mandatory. Other requirements include a sense of humor, a love of adventure, a desire to learn more about riparian birds, and an appreciation for montane meadow landscapes. A willingness to face the rigors of fieldwork and data entry with good humor is important. These rigors include (but are not limited to!) physically demanding work, long work days that may begin well before dawn, wet, cold weather, mosquitos and biting flies, occasional contact with bears, and less-than-glamorous housing. Successful candidates must be in excellent physical condition and must be comfortable with off-trail hiking, working in waist deep water (waders provided), and orienteering (training provided). Other requirements include past supervisory experience, previous ecological fieldwork in rugged

environments, and a personal vehicle suitable for fieldwork. Applicants should be physically fit enough to conduct surveys for up to 8 hrs. per day in rugged terrain.

EQUIPMENT: The crew leader is expected to provide their own binoculars, hiking boots, rubber boots, and field pack. Although camping is not required, we recommend bringing camping gear as some sites may be easier to survey if accessed the night before.

COMPENSATION. Biologists will be considered seasonal IBP staff, and will receive payment of \$2,700 per month (before payroll taxes) and project-related travel mileage reimbursement (\$0.37/mile), but no fringe benefits. Shared housing is provided.

MORE INFORMATION: For more information about this IBP program, please see our [meadow monitoring](#) and [Willow Flycatcher](#) webpages.

HOW TO APPLY: Please email resume, cover letter, and names, phone numbers and email addresses of three references to [Mandy Holmgren](#), Biologist at: mholmgren AT birdpop DOT org

