



# The INSTITUTE for BIRD POPULATIONS



## **CREW LEADER – Willow Flycatcher Surveys Tahoe National Forest**

We have one opening for an experienced biologist to lead a 3-person crew surveying for Willow Flycatchers at montane meadows on the Tahoe National Forest, north of Truckee, CA.

**PROJECT DATES (tentative):** late May – Mid July (exact dates tbd) 2022.

**TRAINING:** With assistance from an IBP year-round staff member, the crew leader will begin the field season by training two volunteer technicians in bird identification; data collection protocols for Willow Flycatcher broadcast surveys, territory mapping, and habitat assessment; and field safety.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Often working independently, the biologist will conduct broadcast surveys for Willow Flycatchers at meadows on Forest Service and land trust properties in the vicinity of Truckee, CA, and will also coordinate and supervise 2 full-time volunteer field technicians to do the same. 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 willow flycatcher broadcast surveys, and rapid vegetation surveys at each survey site. The early afternoon will then typically be spent mapping flycatcher territories using GPS, planning the next day's surveys for themselves and the volunteers, and/or entering data into a database. 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. The typical work schedule will be 7 days on and 3

off, with one period of 10 days consecutive work from June 15 to June 25 (no days off during that time), but before and after that time the schedule can be more flexible.

**REQUIREMENTS:** Applicants with previous Willow Flycatcher experience and/or previous supervisory experience will be strongly preferred. Other requirements include a sense of humor, a love of adventure, and an appreciation for montane meadow landscapes. A willingness to communicate and coordinate with others, and 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 good physical condition and must be comfortable with off-trail hiking, working in waist deep water (waders provided), and orienteering with a handheld GPS (training provided). Although housing will be provided in a central location, travel to some study sites may require occasional camping.

**EQUIPMENT:** Crews are expected to provide their own binoculars and camping gear, including hiking boots, knee high rubber boots, tent, sleeping bag, raingear, etc. 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:** The Crew Leader will be considered seasonal IBP staff, and will receive payment of \$2,800 per month (before payroll taxes), free shared housing, and mileage reimbursement for project-related travel, but no fringe benefits.

**MORE INFORMATION:** For more information about this IBP program, please see <http://birdpop.org/pages/willowFlyctchrConsSN.php>

**TO APPLY:** Please email a resume, cover letter, and the names, phone numbers and email addresses of three references to [Mandy Holmgren](mailto:mholmgren@birdpop.org), 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-19 vaccination will be required.