Volunteers for Northern Goshawk Surveys in the Sierra Nevada

Spend your summer doing field work in the beautiful Sierra Nevada Mountains of California! We are looking for volunteer field technicians to conduct surveys for Northern Goshawks in the Stanislaus National Forest (6 positions).


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

RESPONSIBILITIES: Primary duties will involve conducting occupancy surveys for Northern Goshawks on National Forest land. Survey work will be primarily conducted early mornings. Most of the survey work will be off-trail in rugged terrain and will require frequent long drives and occasional car camping. Volunteer technicians will also be responsible for data entry, maintenance of equipment and vehicles, and attending regular meetings. Survey work will occur primarily in the vicinity of Mi-wuk Village (Stanislaus NF), CA.

REQUIREMENTS: Primary requirements include a sense of humor, a love of adventure, and a desire to learn more about Northern Goshawks and the Sierra Nevada. Previous outdoors experience is preferred, and a willingness to face the rigors of fieldwork with good humor is important. These 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, and occasional contact with bears, and housing that may be rustic and/or somewhat crowded.

SCHEDULE: Typically 7 days on and 3 off.

EQUIPMENT: Volunteer technicians are expected to provide their own binoculars, hiking boots and camping gear for car camping (tent, sleeping bag, raingear, etc.).

COMPENSATION: These are volunteer positions, but we provide training, shared housing, and a per diem of $52 (amounts to approximately $1300 per month) to help with food and general living expenses.

TO APPLY: Please email a resume, cover letter, and the names, phone numbers and email addresses of three references to Mandy Holmgren, Biologist, at: mholmgren AT birdpop DOT org. Professional references are preferred, but one reference may be a character reference. Many times references are slow to reply, we will contact all submitted references and encourage submitting more references so that your application can be quickly processed.

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.