

**POSITION DESCRIPTION**

**Title:** Avian Field Biologist – Dolores River

**FLSA Status**: FULL TIME / SALARIED / EXEMPT

**Reports to:** Alex van Boer

**Direct Reports:** None

**Location**: Colorado, Utah

**Salary:** $1154 - $1338, biweekly, depending on experience. In addition to salary, reimbursement for project-related travel, some recreational travel, and up to $200 per 2-week pay period in camping and lodging reimbursements will be provided.

**Duration:** Approximately 6 Weeks (4/30/2018 – around 6/8/2018) with additional work possible through Mid July.

**Benefits:** None

**Start Date** 4/30/2018 (Tentative)

**About the Organization:**

Bird Conservancy of the Rockies conserves birds and their habitats through an integrated approach of science, education and stewardship. Our work extends from the Rockies to the Great Plains, Mexico and beyond. Our mission is advanced through sound science, achieved through empowering people, realized through stewardship and sustained through cross-border collaborations. We monitor and identify population trends, research habitat needs, engage landowners and managers in wildlife and habitat stewardship, and inspire audiences of all ages to be better stewards of the land. Together, we are improving native bird populations, the land, and the lives of people. Learn more about our work and programs at our website: [www.birdconservancy.org](http://www.birdconservancy.org)

**Job Duties and Responsibilities:**

**OVERVIEW**

Bird Conservancy of the Rockies is seeking an experienced field biologist and river runner to conduct point counts along the Dolores River in Western Colorado for a project monitoring the impacts of riparian restoration on avian species. The position will begin on April 30 (tentative) and continue through early June with the possibility for additional employment through mid July, conducting surveys for the Integrated Monitoring in Bird Conservation Regions (IMBCR) program in Colorado, Wyoming, or Utah. Surveys are located on both public and private lands and many are only accessible by boat. For additional information about IMBCR, please visit <http://www.birdconservancy.org/what-we-do/science/monitoring/imbcr-program/>.

Prior to beginning field work, technicians will attend a week-long, mandatory, paid training. Upon successful completion of training, technicians will work independently conducting bird surveys. The standard work schedule is typically 10 days on and 4 days off. Technicians must be able to identify all bird species found across Western Colorado by sight and sound upon completion of training. Primitive camping, often without phone service or facilities will be required as well as some overnight river travel. Completion of job duties may periodically require long days in the field. Navigating to survey locations will require the use of an inflatable kayak in potentially fast moving currents and possible class II-III rapids.

**REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES**Applicants should be enthusiastic, physically fit, enjoy travel, and be willing to work long hours in the field. The ability to identify avian species that breed in Western Colorado by sight and sound is required. Previous experience as a river guide or extensive private boating experience is highly desired for this position. Knowledge and application of appropriate river safety practices is required. A valid driver's license, proof of auto insurance, binoculars, camping/backpacking gear, basic computer skills, a strong work ethic, and enthusiasm for conservation and conducting fieldwork are also necessary. Applicants should enjoy working independently and be a self-starter. Other desired qualifications include prior experience conducting point count surveys, camping, and long distance hiking. Applicants with personal 4WD vehicles are encouraged to apply; however, Bird Conservancy will rent vehicles for qualified applicants that do not possess 4WD vehicles and are at least 21 years old and pass a motor vehicle background check.

**REQUIRED EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:**

* Ability to identify Western avian species by sight and sound is required
* River guide experience or at least two years of private boating experience is highly desired
* Driver’s license, proof of insurance, and experience driving 4WD vehicles is required
* Prior experience conducting avian point counts is highly desired
* Must have previous experience camping in a front country environment with backcountry experience desired

**To Apply:**

Email a cover letter detailing your bird identification knowledge/ability/experience, resume, and three references as a single document (PDF or Word) to Alex van Boer (alex.vanboer@birdconservancy.org). I will begin reviewing applications on January 8th and this position will be filled as suitable applicants are found.