

POSITION DESCRIPTION



Title:	Avian Ecologist
FLSA Status:	Full-time / Exempt / Salaried
Reports to:	Landscape Ecologist
Salary:	\$40,000 - \$43,000 annually, depending on experience
Benefits:	Eligible – paid time off, Simple IRA w/match, medical dental & vision insurance
Duration:	2 years, with possibility of extension pending fund availability
Start date:	September 2019

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

Project overview

Grassland songbird populations, including migratory species breeding in the mixed-grass prairies of the northern Great Plains, are among the most rapidly declining guilds in North America. These birds spend much of their life cycle on the wintering grounds, but little is known about their abundance or distribution within this desert grassland landscape. This project seeks to estimate presence and abundance of wintering grassland birds in the Chihuahuan Desert (spanning the US and Mexico) to inform conservation of these species on their wintering grounds.

Job duties and responsibilities

The avian ecologist will lead all aspects of our Nonbreeding Survey effort in west Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona and help expand this effort with collaborating organizations into Mexico. This survey effort utilizes a regional network of grid cells which contain walking transects where technicians will record detections of wintering grassland birds including (but not limited to) chestnut-collared longspurs, Sprague's pipits, and Baird's sparrows. The incumbent will be part of the Full Annual Cycle team within the Science Team at Bird Conservancy of the Rockies and be responsible for 1) stakeholder recruitment and communication, 2) hiring and supervising 4-10 seasonal employees, 3) organization and implementation of all field season logistics, 4) data proofing and report write-up, and 6) other tasks as needed. The Avian Ecologist will be based in Fort Collins, CO and implement a winter field season December – February in west Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and several Mexican states (pending funding).

Desired qualifications

The applicant should have a MS (or equivalent related experience) in ecology or a related field, be conversant in Spanish, and have significant previous experience organizing and implementing regional field efforts in avian ecology. Experience identifying wintering grassland birds is preferred. Preference will be given to applicants that have demonstrated experience with stakeholder interactions and organization, especially across international boundaries.

How to Apply

Please submit a cover letter and resume in one pdf document via email to maureen.correll@birdconservancy.org by August 11, 2019. Please include "Avian Ecologist position" in the subject line. All applications received by this date will receive full consideration.

NOTE: This job description is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all duties, responsibilities, or qualifications associated with the job. The employee will be required to follow any other instructions and to perform any other duties requested by their supervisor. Nothing in this job description shall create or is intended to create, or shall be construed to constitute a contract of employment, express or implied. Employees are held accountable for all duties of this job.