

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

<b>Title:</b>	Seasonal Technician Mexican Spotted Owl Monitoring
<b>FLSA Status:</b>	Seasonal / Exempt / Salary
<b>Reports to:</b>	Crew Leader
<b>Direct Reports:</b>	None
<b>Location:</b>	New Mexico and Arizona
<b>Salary:</b>	\$1,368/2 weeks
<b>Duration:</b>	Early April to mid-July
<b>Benefits:</b>	Not eligible
<b>Purpose</b>	Six to ten seasonal technicians will participate in research activities to estimate occupancy rates of Mexican Spotted Owls as well as other research projects pertaining to Mexican Spotted Owl population monitoring.

### **About the Organization:**

Bird Conservancy of the Rockies is a non-profit that is headquartered at the Environmental Learning Center at Barr Lake State Park with a satellite office in Fort Collins and fieldwork outposts in the Great Plains, Rocky Mountains, and Intermountain West Regions. Bird Conservancy conserves birds and their habitats through an integrated approach of Science, Education and Stewardship. Our work radiates from the Rockies to the Great Plains, Mexico and beyond. We are innovative leaders in bird monitoring, research and stewardship. We support a dedicated team of scientists, educators and biologists.

### **Project Overview:**

Mexican Spotted Owls are a federally threatened species. Their recovery plan states that ten years of occupancy monitoring is needed before any decision can be made to remove them from the protection of the Endangered Species Act. We conduct that occupancy monitoring across Arizona and New Mexico in order to track trends in occupancy rates and inform conservation. In addition, we conduct complimentary research and other projects pertaining to Mexican Spotted Owl survey methods and monitoring.

### **Essential Job Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Conduct nighttime surveys for Mexican Spotted Owls in National Forests following established protocols
- Communicate regularly with crew leader
- Interact positively and professionally with landowners, locals and agency employees as needed
- In addition, some technicians will perform Goshawk surveys on the Carson National Forest

### **Other Duties:**

- Other duties as assigned

### **Knowledge, Skills and Experience required (unless otherwise noted):**

- Bachelor's degree in biology, ecology, environmental science, or a related field
- Driver's license and 4WD experience
- Backcountry experience (including backpacking, off trail navigation, basic survival skills, and grit)
- Ability to hike up to 12 miles a day while carrying up to 40 lbs
- Attention to detail and ability to collect quality data
- Ability to learn visual and auditory identification of nocturnal birds
- Ability to travel and work with a partner for 10 day periods
- Ability to maintain a positive disposition in extreme conditions
- Effective written, verbal, and interpersonal communication skills

- Enthusiasm for spending 3.5 months in beautiful forests and canyons

**Physical Demands / Work Environment:**

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

- High-level stress
- Surveying, hiking, and navigating at night in mountainous terrain, both on- and off-trail, in variable and extreme weather conditions
- Working in areas with potentially dangerous wildlife (black bears, mountain lions, rattlesnakes)
- Nighttime field work may be conducted alone
- May include lifting up to forty (40) pounds of project gear on a frequent basis. Proper lifting techniques required.
- Standing, walking, and hiking for extended periods of time outside in uneven terrain carrying a forty (40) pound pack
- Camping with some backpacking during work periods
- Driving on rough roads, dealing with mud, navigating around cattle and barbed-wire fencing
- Work schedule will be 10 days on, 4 days off

**Material and Equipment Directly Used:**

- Standard field equipment (e.g. GPS units, compasses, first aid kits, etc.)
- Specific survey equipment (e.g. FoxPro game call, autonomous recording units, etc.)

**To Apply:**

To apply, send a cover letter, resume, and three references IN ONE DOCUMENT (.pdf or .doc) to [spottedowl@birdconservancy.org](mailto:spottedowl@birdconservancy.org). Name your application file accordingly: *Lastname\_MSO2020\_technician*. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled with preference to those submitted before January 6<sup>th</sup>.