

Waterfowl Research Technicians

University of Waterloo - Western Boreal Forest Waterfowl Nest Predator Project

Job Description

The University of Waterloo's Western Boreal Forest Waterfowl Nest Predator Project is seeking up to 5 highly motivated waterfowl research technicians to assist with nest searching and monitoring in the western boreal forest of Canada. The overall goal of this project is to understand how industrial development influences waterfowl nest success. The study area is located north of Slave Lake, Alberta.

The project will provide transportation from Edmonton to the study area, housing while in the field, and a monthly food stipend. Field housing will be located at a base camp with basic amenities; however, remote field camps throughout the study area will be utilized for short periods and technicians may be required to share accommodations.

One lead technician position will be hired from ~15 March to 31 August 2017. Remaining positions will be staffed from approximately 01 May to 31 August 2017; however, exact dates will vary with breeding phenology.

Duties

- Assist with waterfowl banding and marking
- Use radio-telemetry to locate and monitor waterfowl nests
- Nest searching and monitoring (walking up to 10 km/day through dense habitat)
- Complete habitat assessment (e.g., vegetation identification)
- Conduct avian point-count surveys
- Install and monitor camera traps
- Deploy and monitor artificial nests
- Daily data entry

Qualifications

- Canadian citizenship or appropriate documentation confirming eligibility to work in Canada
- Completion of, or enrollment in, a college/university program in wildlife ecology/management, biology, zoology, or similar natural science
- Previous field work experience, particularly in remote areas, is a highly regarded asset
- Experience working in areas with bears and other large carnivores
- Previous waterfowl and wetlands experience is desired (e.g., waterfowl I.D., wetland plant I.D.)
- High physical endurance and willingness to work long hours and tolerate biting insects
- Competent navigating and experience with handheld GPS and compass
- Attention to detail and accurate/organized note-taking
- Up to date Standard First Aid with CPR-C or better
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Experience operating off-road vehicles, trucks, and trailers considered an asset
- Valid driver's license with a clean record is preferred



Compensation

Technicians will be compensated at a fixed rate of \$2200 CAD per month plus housing and a monthly food stipend for the duration of the study.

How to apply

If you are qualified and interested in working on our team, please e-mail a cover letter, resume or CV, and names of at least two references with the subject line **“WBF Tech Application”** to: mdyson@uwaterloo.ca.

Applications will be reviewed upon submission and accepted until the positions are filled. Interviews will be conducted in person, phone, or skype starting 06 February 2017. For more information, please contact:

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Photos of field sites by Chris Kahlmeier

