

Seasonal Crew Leader for Seabird Ecology, Restoration, and Management Project

The Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at Oregon State University anticipates funding for a Seasonal Crew Leader within a large-scale and long-term Seabird Ecology, Restoration, and Management Project that has been studying the diet and behavioral ecology of Caspian terns, Double-crested cormorants, and several gull species in coastal and southeast Oregon, the upper Columbia River basin, and northern California for over 19 years. Current studies include on-colony behavioral and productivity observations, ground and aerial surveys to determine nesting and foraging distribution, leg banding/band re-sighting, satellite telemetry to document inter-colony movement and foraging patterns, and non-lethal techniques for management of piscivorous waterbirds. The project is a collaboration with researchers from the U.S. Geological Survey - Oregon Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit and Real Time Research, a private consulting firm. Positions provide excellent field research experience and the successful candidate can expect to learn a great deal about seabird biology and management. Further information about the project can be viewed at www.birdresearchnw.org.

LOCATION: Pasco, Washington with field work to be conducted on islands on the Mid-Columbia River and at reservoirs on the Columbia Plateau

DATES: Full-time seasonal position with a preferred start date of March 6, 2017. Anticipated end date is July 31, 2017.

SALARY: \$2,500 - \$2,700 per month depending on experience; housing and a food allowance will be provided.

REQUIREMENTS: For full consideration, applicants must possess and maintain a current, valid Driver's License and have boat handling and operation experience, supervisory experience, and knowledge of seabird biology. The position will be paid through a temporary hiring agency and the successful candidate will be required to pass a background check.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS: Applicants should have a strong interest in avian ecology and wildlife management, and be comfortable working on small boats. Current Department of Interior motor boat operator certification (MOCC) is a plus. Preference will be given for prior supervisory experience involving avian research and monitoring, experience conducting wildlife management, professional field experience involving boat operation, knowledge of seabird behavior, and possession of at least a bachelor's degree in Wildlife Science or a related field.

DUTIES: Primary duties will be to assist with monitoring and implementing components of the Inland Avian Predation Management Plan to reduce Caspian Tern predation on ESA-listed salmonids in the Columbia River system. The Crew Leader will coordinate daily field crew activities, relay detailed instructions to crew member(s), collect data, monitor data collection and adherence to data collection protocols by the field technician(s), prepare weekly reports, communicate with field coordinators and principal investigators, and make quick decisions in response to unforeseen or changing situations. The Crew Leader will act as a liaison to property owners or managers and ensure proper care and maintenance of field equipment and crew rental housing.

The position will require the collection of field data by visiting known and potential breeding sites that are part of the tern management plan. Specific duties will include boating to tern islands, monitoring the presence of terns, using optics to collect colony counts and breeding activity data, entering data on tablet PCs and computers, maintaining field equipment, and ensuring adherence

to applicable protocols and research permits. Field based components of the position will require working extended hours (including nights and weekends), often in suboptimal conditions (wet, cold, windy, or hot). Field work is physically strenuous and may involve crawling on knees, bending over or stooping, and sitting for long periods of time while using binoculars and spotting scopes. The Crew Leader will direct the work of field technician(s) to ensure all duties are performed with a high degree of quality, uniformity, and timeliness. The Crew Leader must work as a team and will be required to live and work in close quarters and in isolated settings. Camping at island field sites may be required when assisting with dissuasion activities. In addition to the duties listed above, the Crew Lead will assist with field site maintenance which can be physically demanding at times.

Although the main field research emphasis of this position will be to conduct Caspian tern colony monitoring, assisting with some management (active hazing and installation of passive dissuasion materials) to deter Caspian tern breeding at Potholes Reservoir, WA will be required at times.

APPLICATIONS: A complete application must consist of an attached SINGLE DOCUMENT (Word or PDF) containing: (1) a 1-page cover letter addressing your qualifications as they relate to the specific requirements, qualifications, and duties described above; (2) a professional resume; and (3) telephone numbers and email addresses of three references familiar with the applicant's professional qualifications. Application Documents must be named with the following format; Lastname_Firstname_2017_PascoCrewLead. MS word files preferred. For full consideration apply by January 8, 2017.

SUBMIT TO: Peter Loschl and Tim Lawes at avian.jobs@oregonstate.edu with subject line: 2017 Pasco Crew Leader

Email submissions preferred or send hard copies to:

Peter Loschl and Tim Lawes

Department of Fisheries and Wildlife

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If you have specific questions regarding this position, please contact Peter Loschl

pete.loschl@oregonstate.edu or Tim Lawes timothy.lawes@oregonstate.edu.

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