



The INSTITUTE for BIRD POPULATIONS



Contract Biologist, Avian Point Counts at Fort Bragg, North Carolina

Get paid to go birding - spend your summer doing field work in forests and woodlands of beautiful Fort Bragg, North Carolina! We are looking for two contract biologists to conduct avian point count surveys for approximately 7 weeks.

PROJECT DATES (tentative): Early May to late June 2023

TRAINING: The field season will begin with a short orientation session. Surveyors are required to already be able to identify birds of the Southeastern U.S. by sight and sound, and applicants with previous point count experience will be strongly preferred.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Working in a team of two, biologists will visit and survey areas on the Fort Bragg military installation, much of which is wooded and has actively managed wildlife habitat. On a typical day, surveyors will wake up before dawn and spend the morning conducting multi-species point counts. The afternoons will then typically be spent entering data, or with free time. The work is physically demanding, sometimes involving hikes of several miles, including off-trail travel. The typical work schedule is flexible but will generally be 5 days on and 2 days off.

REQUIREMENTS: We are looking for candidates with prior birding experience and familiarity with the songs and calls of southeastern U.S. birds. Other requirements include the ability to work hard in an unsupervised environment, a sense of humor, a love of adventure, and a desire to learn more about the avifauna of the region.

Crew members will be lodged in an AirBnB house with a kitchen, Wi-Fi, and other amenities near the base in the town of Fayetteville, NC, a small city with many restaurants, stores, etc.

A willingness to face the rigors of fieldwork with good humor is important. These include (but are not limited to) physically demanding work, long work days that may begin well before dawn, wet, cold weather, mosquitos, ticks, and possibly snakes. Successful candidates must be in excellent physical condition and must be comfortable with off-trail hiking and orienteering with a hand-held GPS.

SCHEDULE: Typically 5 days on, 2 days off but with considerable potential for a flexible schedule to suit your needs. There is a fixed number of point count transects that need to be accomplished, and you will have some flexibility in how this is scheduled within the early May to late June timeframe.

EQUIPMENT: Biologists are expected to provide their own binoculars, hiking boots, raingear, day pack, etc. The crew will be provided with a 4WD rental vehicle, so the ability to drive a 4WD truck or small SUV is required.

COMPENSATION: For this position, biologists will be considered INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS and will each receive payment of \$4,500, split into two payments, one after approximately half the point count transects have been completed, and the other upon completion of transects. Contractors will **NOT** receive health insurance, worker's compensation, or any other fringe benefits. It is strongly recommended that candidates have their own health insurance.

TO APPLY: Please email a resume, cover letter, and the names, phone numbers and email addresses of up to three references to Mandy Holmgren, Biologist (mholmgren AT birdpop DOT org). Professional references are preferred, but one reference may be a character reference. Many times references are slow to reply; we will contact all submitted references and encourage submitting as many as you can so that your application can be quickly processed quickly. Please put Fort Bragg Point Counts in the subject line.

IBP values diversity and encourages people from all backgrounds to apply. All qualified applicants will receive consideration regardless of race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, or sexual orientation.