



## SOUTHWEST AVIAN ECOLOGIST

*June 1, 2021*

The Institute for Bird Populations (IBP; [www.birdpop.org](http://www.birdpop.org)) seeks an avian ecologist to help develop and implement its emerging Southwest Science and Conservation Program. **This is a year-round position incorporating study design, data analysis, project coordination, crew training and supervision, data collection, and reporting (including opportunity to publish).** The successful candidate will have expertise in the identification, ecology, and conservation of birds in the southwestern United States, strong data analysis skills, and a willingness to spend the spring/summer field season in the field full-time, training and leading crews. This is a full-time, salaried staff position, with health insurance and other fringe benefits.

**ABOUT IBP:** We are an international avian research and conservation organization based in Petaluma California, with staff across the U.S. We enable science-based conservation of species and habitats by studying the abundance, demography, and ecology of birds and other wildlife. We collaborate locally, nationally, and globally with government agencies, universities, and NGOs to assess the effects of climate change, land management actions, and other ecological stressors on bird populations, and prescribe practical solutions to conservation challenges.

**POSITION DESCRIPTION:** This is a great opportunity for an ecologist seeking a mix of fieldwork and analytical work. Tasks for the first year of employment will mostly relate to modifying and implementing a large point count-based bird monitoring program spanning multiple southwestern national parks. From approximately September 2021 to March 2022, primary tasks will include analyzing historical data, with mentorship available from a senior IBP data analyst; revising an existing study design and protocol based on findings from the historical data; and completing logistical preparations for data collection during the 2022 breeding season. From approximately May to July 2022, work will likely be 100% field-based, training and leading field crews surveying birds in the participating national parks. Responsibilities will likely diversify to include other projects, particularly after the first year, but will continue to include management of the park-based monitoring program.

Free, shared housing near the survey areas will be provided during the 2022 field season. During the rest of the year the selected candidate may choose to work from IBP's main office in Petaluma, CA or telecommute from home elsewhere in the Southwest.

**SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE:** The successful candidate will ideally have all or most of the following attributes:

- Expertise in identification, ecology, and conservation of southwestern birds.
- Experience conducting multi-species bird surveys.
- Experience supervising field crews.
- High level of physical fitness and ability to work in rugged terrain.
- Strong quantitative skills, including statistics and modeling related to population ecology, and familiarity with R.
- Strong GIS skills, including work with remote-sensed data.



- Experience deploying Autonomous Recording Units (ARUs) and processing ARU data.
- A graduate degree in the biological sciences.
- A sense of humor and a desire to integrate into a friendly, highly collaborative team.

**COMPENSATION:** This is a year-round staff position starting at \$4,000/month with fringe benefits including health insurance.

**START DATE AND HIRING SCHEDULE:** Employment will begin in late summer or early fall 2021. Application review will begin immediately and the position will be filled as soon as possible.

**TO APPLY:** Please email a resume, cover letter, and contact information for 3 references to Lauren Helton at: LHelton AT birdpop DOT org. Please specify 'Southwest Avian Ecologist position' in the Subject line.

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