



BIRMINGHAM AUDUBON

Position description

Coastal Field Technician

Location: Mobile office

Supervisor: Coastal Senior Biologist

About Birmingham Audubon

Founded in 1946 and incorporated as a 501(c)(3) in 1976, Birmingham Audubon is Alabama's leading nonprofit promoting conservation and a greater knowledge of birds, their habitats, and the natural world. As the primary Audubon chapter for most of Alabama, we provide a variety of services to our state's birds and bird lovers, including field trips, adult courses, support for researchers and educators, scientific research, habitat restoration, and coastal bird stewardship and monitoring. As of 2018, our staff includes eight full-time and two seasonal positions divided between our Birmingham and Mobile offices. Our newsletter reaches over 1,800 local and National Audubon members statewide.

About the Alabama Coastal Bird Stewardship Program

The Alabama Coastal Bird Stewardship Program (ALCBSP) is a comprehensive conservation and research program protecting shorebirds and their habitats along the Alabama Gulf Coast. Funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund with additional support from Alabama State Lands Division of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and implemented by Birmingham Audubon's Coastal Programs staff, ALCBSP utilizes volunteer-driven community science, staff-led research and outreach, and strategic partnerships to monitor and provide protection for eleven of Alabama's most sensitive beach-nesting birds species.

About the position:

Birmingham Audubon's COASTAL FIELD TECHNICIAN will conduct coastal bird surveys and provide both technical instruction and field assistance to volunteer community scientists in both Mobile and Baldwin Counties. Reporting to the Coastal Senior Biologist, the Coastal Field Technician will work directly with volunteers, interns, and seasonal stewards to protect nesting sites against threats from human disturbance. He/she will also work with other staff to implement best practices in volunteer management, to execute our outreach and educational mandates, and to advance our research goals.

This is an exempt, salaried, one-year position, supported by a United States Fish & Wildlife Service Coastal Program grant ending in September 2020.

Core responsibilities:

The Coastal Field Technician will:

- conduct annual bird surveys along the Alabama Gulf Coast;
- assist in ongoing monitoring of colonial and solitary nesters during the breeding season;
- ensure timely and accurate data collection/reporting;
- ensure that all monitoring efforts follow approved protocols and best management practices as established by Birmingham Audubon and the National Audubon Society;
- interact with and provide technical assistance to community-science volunteers;
- assist the Coastal Programs Coordinator in building community-science teams and organizing/implementing volunteer events;
- properly inventory, maintain, and care for all project equipment;
- maintain positive working relationships with all partnering organizations, agencies, groups, and individuals connected with the ALCBSP;
- participate in other research and non-research duties as assigned.

Basic qualifications

The Coastal Field Technician *must* possess:

- a deep commitment to Birmingham Audubon's core mission;
- a working knowledge of coastal shorebird biology;
- a bachelor's degree in ornithology, wildlife biology, ecology, natural resources, or a related field;
- a minimum of three years' experience in biological field work and avian monitoring;
- proficiency with the Microsoft Office suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook);
- demonstrated success in managing volunteers
- excellent interpersonal, written, and oral communication skills;
- a positive attitude, even in the face of challenging physical and meteorological conditions;
- a willingness to work irregular hours, including early mornings, evenings, and weekends as necessary;
- strong organizational and relationship-building skills, as well as the ability to lead and work as part of team;
- willingness to submit to a background check;
- a valid driver's license, independent means of transportation, and the ability to responsibly operate company vehicles.

Physical requirements:

The Coastal Field Technician must be able to:

- carry out a wide variety of physically demanding tasks (e.g., lifting, reaching, bending, pushing, pulling, sitting, walking, typing, driving, standing, speaking) under a variety of difficult conditions, both indoor and outdoor;
- tolerate a variety of challenging field conditions, including difficult weather (hot, cold,, wet, inclement), remote and inaccessible locations, and inhospitable vegetation.

It is the policy of BIRMINGHAM AUDUBON that all persons are entitled to equality of opportunity in all areas of employment regardless of race, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, national origin, religion, veteran status, genetic information, or other legally protected status.

As a contractor with the State of Alabama, BIRMINGHAM AUDUBON is required to participate in the federal government's e-Verify program. We can confirm with e-Verify the employment authorization of all newly hired employees and most existing employees through an electronic database maintained by the Social Security Administration and the Department of Homeland Security. The e-Verify process is completed in conjunction with a new hire's completion of the Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification, upon commencement of employment. E-Verify is not used as a tool to pre-screen candidates. Visit www.uscis.gov for more information.

How to apply:

Please submit a cover letter, resume, and contact information for three references as a single PDF document to nicolelove@birninghamaudubon.org, subject: "Coastal Field Technician."