



Platte River Whooping Crane Maintenance Trust, Inc. **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Job Title: Wildlife Biologist
Location: 6611 W. Whooping Crane Drive, Wood River, NE 68883
Status: Exempt
Reports to: Director of Conservation Research
Date: Open until filled
Salary: Commensurate with Experience
Website: cranetrust.org

About the Crane Trust

The Crane Trust is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting and maintaining critical habitat along the Big Bend of the Platte River for whooping cranes, sandhill cranes, and other migratory bird species. We focus on conservation, research, and public education, hosting events and programs to inspire engagement with the natural world and foster community support for our mission.

Description

We are currently seeking a Wildlife Biologist to assist with long-term monitoring data collection. The Wildlife Biologist position will play a significant role in supervision and training of seasonal and term employees with the primary focus of leading long-term monitoring data collection and assisting in project specific field work. They will also assist with the management of a Whooping Crane behavioral database. In addition to field work duties and database management, this position will require time devoted to data entry and quality control, report writing, grant writing, and publication support. This position will also involve community outreach, mostly during spring crane migration (“Crane Season”), and land management support, as necessary.

Long-term monitoring duties include implementation of the following:

- Field lead for:
 - Small mammal live-trapping (August-September)
 - Butterfly species of concern surveys (June-September)
 - Slough surveys examining fish and invertebrates (August)
 - Prairie Chicken behavioral surveys (January-May)
 - Anuran acoustic surveys (March-July)

- Bumblebee surveys (June-September)
- Monarch tagging (September)
- Assisting with:
 - Soil macroinvertebrate sampling (June-September)
 - Soil quality sampling (June-September)
 - Whooping Crane behavioral surveys (Spring and Fall migrations)
 - Sandhill Crane aerial surveys (Spring and Fall migrations)
 - Assistance in vegetation surveys (June-September)
 - Avian point-count surveys (May-July)
 - Land management (year-round)
 - Weed control (Spring-Fall)
 - Prescribed fire (Spring and Fall)
 - Seed collection and dispersion (when appropriate for target species)
 - Organizing and leading volunteer and educational activities (year-round)

While this position will not be solely in charge of every survey listed here, they may be asked to assist with any of the above surveys and will aid in the creation of science team schedules to ensure long-term monitoring is completed efficiently and within the allotted timeframe.

Qualifications

Strong candidates for this position will be those with knowledge of field research implementation seeking to apply their skills across a wide variety of survey techniques. Candidates should work well as part of a team as the hired applicant will work with other researchers, land management and outreach team members from within the Crane Trust, conservation employees from other organizations, local landowners, and other Crane Trust partners.

Position Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in a wildlife or conservation related field
- Two or more years of experience in conservation and/or field research
- Skill in avian identification
- Experience working with threatened and/or endangered species
- Experience or interest in research and conservation in a riverine-grassland ecosystem
- Must show skill in written communication and understand scientific literature especially relating to ecological topics
- Must have a valid driver's license

- Must be able to work full time (40 hrs/week)
- Ability to safely navigate natural terrain and walk long distances to some field sites
- Must be able to ensure the safety of seasonal and term employees
- Must show ability to ID species of a variety of taxa in the field
- Must be able to communicate with guests and donors about work done by the Crane Trust and the ecosystem of the Platte River Valley
- Must know, respect, and follow safety policies and procedures given by the Director of Conservation Research and the Crane Trust President/CEO
- Ability to follow detailed field protocols and instructions
- Must be able to work in an outdoor setting in extreme weather conditions including (but not limited to) hot, sunny, humid, rainy, buggy, and/or cold).
- Must be willing to work with Crane Trust partners in a positive and constructive manner

Deadline

This position is open until it is filled.

Application Instructions

To apply send one document, preferably a PDF, containing your resume/CV, contact information, ≥ 3 references, and a cover letter no longer than 1 page detailing your interests in our science program, your skillset, important experiences (educational, volunteer, or work highlights), and a little about your philosophy on conservation and work. Please email applications to akanz@cranetrust.org and feel free to email with any questions.

Equal Opportunity Employer

The Crane Trust embraces a diverse, inclusive, and equitable workplace where all employees, board members, and volunteers feel valued and respected, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, age, sexual orientation or identity, education, or physical abilities. We welcome applicants from diverse backgrounds and experiences to apply.

Contact Information

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