

Hanalei National Wildlife Refuge

Job Description for Avian Botulism Survey Volunteer Position



Qualifications

- Enjoy meeting and dealing with people.
- Have patience and tact. Be able to answer repeated questions, unpleasant individuals and seemingly uncontrolled children.
- Have a background or interest in conservation, natural or cultural history, ecology, or biology. Please note that a college degree or formal education is NOT necessary.
- Have a desire to treat volunteer service as a serious responsibility. Volunteers are expected to complete a training program, wear a uniform, and report for duty on schedule.

Duties

- Monitor taro fields and wetland management units for sick and dead birds by walking dikes, searching field perimeters in an assigned area, collecting birds, and accurately recording observations
- Periodic searches within wetlands and taro fields
- Ability to walk long distances on uneven but flat terrain, in sunny or rainy weather

When/How long TOD:

- 2-4 hours/day, once or twice/week, minimum 3-month commitment

Obligations

- Complete a training program provided by Refuge staff;
- Review, understand, and abide by all volunteer-related Standard Operating Procedures
- Provide their own transportation to and from work;
- Wear a uniform shirt, hat, nametag, and tabis;
- Report for work on scheduled dates and times; and
- Provide personal water, sunglasses, sunscreen, and weather protection

Supervision

Avian Botulism Survey volunteers will be supervised by the Refuge Biologist and other Biology staff. FWS staff, a bio-tech or intern will work closely with the volunteer. Once the volunteer feels comfortable, he/she will be permitted to work independently. The avian botulism coordinator will spot check the volunteer's work and provide constructive criticism.

Benefits

- Have the opportunity to work at one of the most beautiful places on earth;
- Meet people from all around the world, other volunteers, and Service personnel;
- Gain knowledge of Hawai'i's wetland ecosystem, the cultural and natural history of Hanalei, and the National Wildlife Refuge System;
- Be able to share your knowledge and improve public understanding of Hawai'i's unique and troubled flora and fauna, and the Refuge and its management programs;
- Contribute to visitor safety and comfort, and to the quality and success of Refuge operations;
- Receive a discount at the Kīlauea Point Natural History Association's Bookstore
- Have the opportunity to access behind the scene locations of the Refuge Complex;
- Gain additional training, such as CPR/First Aid/AED; and
- Contribute to enhancing staff and volunteer service on Refuge landscapes and/or with wildlife.