

Hanalei National Wildlife Refuge

Job Description for Avian Botulism Survey Volunteer Position



Qualifications

- Enjoy working outdoors in a variety of weather conditions
- Ability to walk long distances on uneven but flat terrain
- Have an interest in natural and cultural resources conservation (college degree or formal education is NOT necessary)
- A desire to treat volunteer service as an important responsibility

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
- Conduct periodic searches within wetlands and taro fields

When/How long:

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

Requirements

- Complete a training program provided by Refuge staff or trained interns
- Review, understand, and abide by all volunteer-related Standard Operating Procedures
- Provide transportation to and from work
- Wear a uniform shirt and hat designated for Refuge volunteers
- Report for work on scheduled dates and times
- Provide personal water bottle, sunglasses, raingear, appropriate footwear, sunscreen, and weather protection

Supervision

Avian Botulism Survey volunteers will be supervised by the Refuge Biologist and other Biology staff and interns. Once the volunteer feels comfortable, he/she will be permitted to work independently. The Refuge Biologist will be available to provide guidance and answer questions.

Benefits

- Have the opportunity to work at one of the most beautiful places on earth
- Meet people from around the world, other volunteers, and Refuge personnel
- Gain first-hand knowledge of Hawaiian wetland and agricultural ecosystems, the cultural and natural history of Hanalei, and the National Wildlife Refuge System
- Sharpen bird ID skills, also learn about bird behavior, important habitats, and bird rescue operations
- Stay in shape, get regular exercise in special Refuge areas that are closed to the general public
- Assist in filling a critical gap in Refuge operations
- Contribute to the quality and success of Refuge operations
- Receive a discount at the Kilauea Point Natural History Association's Bookstore
- Gain additional training, such as CPR/First Aid/AED
- Be able to share your knowledge and improve public understanding of Hawai'i's unique and declining natural treasures, the Refuge, and its management programs