

2019 PIPING PLOVER TECHNICIAN

Maine Audubon & Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge

Full-time (40 hr/week), Seasonal Position, 22 Weeks

April 2 – August 30, 2018

Pay Rate: \$17.38/hr

Please note: This is a seasonal position at Maine Audubon, to be stationed at Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge. Low-cost, shared housing may be available.

Position Description: The piping plover technician will be responsible for monitoring and management of piping plovers on 6 beaches in southern Maine. The technician will also monitor a large least tern colony and migratory terns and shorebirds. The technician will be responsible for training and overseeing the work intern and volunteers. The technician will be under the direct supervision of the Refuge Biologist and will receive guidance, direction, and assistance from him/her.

Duties: Major duties include but are not limited to the following:

- Quantitatively monitors territorial and nesting piping plovers on 6 refuge beaches.
 - Identifying breeding territories, ensuring their prompt closure to public access, and making adjustments throughout the season if
 - Monitoring nests and broods from laying to fledging as frequently as possible, while abiding by regional refuge system
 - Exclosing nests when appropriate and organizing a team to erect the enclosure in a timely
 - Conducting dawn and dusk predator watches when necessary to protect broods or
 - Conducting outreach and educational programs with private landowners and the general public.
 - Working on refuge and privately owned beaches.
 - Maintaining electric and symbolic fencing.
- Quantitatively monitors Least Terns, including coordinated nest counts.
- Conducts daily check-ins with supervisor and compiles weekly reports on activities in the field regarding summaries of wildlife activity, visitor use and proposed management actions (including seasonal closures).
- Monitors activity of avian and mammalian predators on refuge beaches and reports issues immediately to Refuge Biologist or Refuge Manager.
- Performs duties involving several phases of wildlife management, e.g. wildlife census work, vegetative analysis, habitat, and general species management.
- Performs refuge construction and general maintenance when requested, including boundary and information sign

- Contacts the general public in the field for the purpose of disseminating verbal and written information on both consumptive and non-consumptive refuge opportunities.
- Supervises volunteers, as
- Assists with other refuge projects when requested, including surveying for Roseate Tern, assisting with saltmarsh sparrow management activities; and helping download and monitor nanotag tower data
- Is responsible for maintain neat and complete data sheets, responsible for calculating productivity rates, responsible for drafting end of the year plover and least tern reports.
- Resighting and tracking activities of banded terns and plovers
- The work requires considerable physical exertion such as walking over wet, rough, uneven, or rocky surfaces, bending, crouching, stooping, stretching, reaching, or standing for long periods in all weather conditions. The work requires average agility and
- The job requires both office and outdoor work. Temperature and weather extremes may be encountered in the performance of outdoor work. Poison ivy and biting insects are common throughout the

Qualifications: Applicants must have the ability to perform the physical duties of the position including being able to hike long distances and being able to lift and carry at least 50 pounds. Applicants must have prior experience working with piping plovers and supervising seasonal interns. Applicants must be able to identify Maine shorebirds and waterbirds. Applicants must have demonstrated excellent written and oral communication skills. Applicants must be able to work with minimal supervision, be independent, and be able to work with the public of all ages in a professional manner regarding sensitive conservation issues.

Previous experience with piping plovers in the field is required. Previous experience working in wildlife management setting, data collection, bird identification, and an academic background in wildlife biology, zoology, environmental science or a related field are preferred. Previous experience conducting outreach programs preferred. Applicants must have a valid driver's license, and a social security number.

How to Apply: To apply, send cover letter, resume, contact information for three references and college transcripts to: Annica McGuirk, amcguirk@maineaudubon.org, with *RCNWR Plover Technician* in the subject line. We will start reviewing applications upon receipt, position open until filled, applications accepted until February 8. Maine Audubon is an EOE.