

Interested in bird ecology and fire ecology? Want to work in Pacific Northwest forests? APPLY NOW!



The Harvey Lab (<https://depts.washington.edu/bjhlab/>) at the University of Washington is hiring **2 full time point count technicians to work on a research project in the Blue Mountains of Northeast Oregon**. We are looking for individuals who are interested in ecology (birds, forests, and fire), adaptable, detail-oriented, able to follow protocols, enjoy working as part of a team outdoors in variable conditions, and can live cooperatively with others. Field assistants are critical members of our team and are essential to advancing research projects!

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Field assistants will be involved in a project researching edge effects and landscape threshold effects of forest fuel treatments on avian community diversity and species abundance. It will comprise a chapter of Don Radcliffe's PhD dissertation in the Harvey Lab at the University of Washington. Don's dissertation is focused on managing historically frequent fire forests for multiple values, including wildfire severity mitigation and retention of biodiversity.

We acknowledge our work in the PNW is located on homelands of Indigenous peoples, and we have a responsibility to reflect on the histories of dispossession and forced removal of the original inhabitants, as well as the resilience and vibrancy of their cultures today.

DUTIES: Field assistants will be collecting point count data on bird communities. Tasks will involve:

(a) navigating variable terrain to forest plots using map, compass, and GPS; (b) identifying birds by site and sound; (c) collecting data on weather conditions and surrounding vegetation

LOGISTICS: Field assistants will need to be on site for most of the six-week duration of the project, working early mornings and potentially long days 5-6 days a week. Flexibility in workdays is required to accommodate weather. Lodging will consist primarily of camping with potential for occasional field housing (not guaranteed). Camping gear (e.g., tents, sleeping pads) will be available for anyone who needs it. The two technicians will work together, and will not be asked to conduct fieldwork alone. They will be supervised by PhD student Don Radcliffe, who will be in the field and working independently some of the time to scout out and establish new plot locations.

POSITION REQUIREMENTS:

- Ability to identify western birds by sight and sound
- Ability to adapt to changing schedules & conditions
- Ability to navigate by foot and by vehicle in rural forested landscapes and rugged terrain
- Ability to work well as a team and live cooperatively
- Commitment to a safe work environment that promotes equity, inclusion, and diversity
- Two years college credits with major study in engineering or science, OR two years equivalent work experience.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:

- Valid driver's license
- Willingness to work early mornings and weekends in variable weather and terrain, prioritizing safety
- Willingness to lodge in mobile, group campsite settings under rugged outdoor conditions

SKILLS TO BE GAINED DURING THE POSITION:

- Fieldwork, data collection, and research experience

**There may be a possibility to continue fieldwork with the Harvey Lab after the point count season is over, on other graduate student projects focused on vegetation and fuel responses to forest fire in the western Cascades, from approximately June to September. If this opportunity interests you, please let Don know and he can provide more information.*

Banner photo credits left to right: Don Radcliffe, Kati Fleming**, VJAnderson**, Mike's Birds**

**shared from Wikimedia Commons under Creative Commons license

DURATION: April 26th to June 16th

COMPENSATION: \$19.24/hour (+ travel / lodging / food costs during work stints are covered above hourly pay!)

TO APPLY

Current UW students — Send a single PDF application to Don Radcliffe (dradclif@uw.edu) with the following info:

- Cover letter (1-pg) describing your interest in the position and relevant educational, professional, and/or personal experience to meet requirements
- Resume or CV
- Unofficial transcripts (no minimum GPA requirement)
- Contact information (name, phone, & email) for two references
- Availability (earliest start date & latest end date)

All other applicants — If you are *not* a current UW student, please apply via UW's Job Portal [here](#).

We will begin reviewing applications **March 1st, 2023**

Please send questions to Don Radcliffe (dradclif@uw.edu)

COVID-19: To qualify for employment, final candidates must demonstrate they meet the [COVID-19 vaccination requirement or receive an approved exemption](#) before starting work. This is in addition to any student verification already completed with UW. We will be working under an approved Health & Safety Plan, which outlines protocols and procedures for the field season, and adheres to all guidelines and best practices for COVID-19.