Waterfowl Technicians
University of Delaware

Location: Swan Quarter, North Carolina

Salary and Housing: $2,240/month with shared housing provided

Start/End Date: March 15, 2020-July 30, 2020

Description:
The University of Delaware is seeking two highly-motivated research technicians to assist a graduate student in investigating the brood movements and survival of American black ducks in coastal North Carolina. Primary duties will include nest searching (chain dragging), egg candling/ floating, trapping/handling hens and ducklings, banding, attaching telemetry packages, radio telemetry tracking, motorboat operation, vegetation measurements, and data entry.

Field work will be conducted throughout the coastal plain in North Carolina, specifically in wetland habitats associated with the Pamlico Sound. Days will be long and physically/mentally demanding given the uneven terrain of salt marshes and hot summer temperatures. There will be instances where technicians will be asked to work >1 week without days off, especially when re-locating marked birds.

Field work will begin in mid-March and continue until the end of July, 2020. Shared housing will be provided on Lake Mattamuskeet.

Required Qualifications:

• Must possess or be working toward a B.S. degree in wildlife sciences, ecology, natural resources or closely related discipline
• Must possess a valid driver’s license with a clean driving record
• Should be in excellent physical condition, must work well in a team, be self-motivated with a positive attitude, and must be comfortable working long days, weeks on end, in adverse field conditions
• Reliable data collection, data entry, and note-taking skills
• Familiarity with navigating via handheld GPS unit and compass
• Experience operating a motorboat

Preferred Qualifications:

• Familiarity with motorboat operation in tidal systems
• Ability to pull and back a boat trailer
• Boater Safety Course and/or Federal MOCC safety training
• First aid/CPR certification
• Prior work capturing and handling animals
• Candling and/or floating waterfowl eggs to determine stage of embryonic development
• Identification of waterfowl; adults, juveniles, and ducklings
• Hands-on experience taking micro-habitat measurements
• Experience re-locating VHF tagged individuals
• Basic GIS experience

Please email a resume/CV, cover letter, and three references (containing a phone number and email address) in Word or PDF format to Amanda Hoyt (ahoyt@udel.edu) with “Black duck technician” in the subject line by January 31st, 2020 to apply.