Waterfowl Technicians
University of Delaware

Location: Swan Quarter, North Carolina

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

Start/End Date: March 29, 2021–July 30, 2021

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, 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 late March and continue until the end of July, 2021 (end date flexible). Shared housing will be provided near Lake Mattamuskeet.

Required Qualifications:

- Must possess or be working toward a B.S. degree in wildlife sciences, ecology, natural resources, or a 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 ready to work long days, weeks on end, in adverse field conditions
- Experience operating a motorboat
- Reliable data collection, data entry, and note-taking skills
- Familiarity with navigating via handheld GPS unit

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
- Ability to determine embryonic development of eggs using candling and/or floating
- Experience re-locating VHF tagged individuals
Those with experience operating motorboats and working in coastal salt marsh systems are highly encouraged to apply.

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 “Waterfowl technician” in the subject line by January 31st, 2021 to apply.