Natural Resources Management – Field Technician Needed

South Dakota State University is working in conjunction with Iowa State University and the NRCS to evaluate the impact fall-seeded cover crops have on breeding birds, especially those deemed as Species of Greatest Conservation Need across the Corn Belt. This study will provide estimates of abundance and density of observed avian species in cover crops, perennial cover, and active cropland fields. These data will be used to develop models and recommendations to assist NRCS field offices in conservation planning.

One technician is needed for mid-April through the end of July. Some flexibility may be discussed regarding the start and end dates, the possibility of an extension on the end date. Study site will be located in Washington County, Iowa with full-time housing provided nearby and a field vehicle (not for personal use).

Primary tasks will involve:
- conducting avian point counts
- conducting vegetation measurements in both row crop and perennial grass field settings
- nest searching and monitoring
- collecting soil samples

Qualifications:
Prior experience with bird identification is a must. Familiarity with midwestern species would be preferred. Preference will also be given to applicants with prior field experience.

Applicants must have a valid driver's license.

Applicants must be capable of working safely for varying hours and in varying conditions in the field and be able to record reliable data and observations.

Preferred applicants will have a positive attitude, the ability to work independently and with others, and have a passion for wildlife biology, conservation, and birds.

Position is full-time and offered pay will be DOE or $10/hr.
To apply, email a CV and contact information for three references and a cover letter describing all relevant experience and qualifications in a single pdf document.

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