

Title: Bird Conservation Technician

Application Deadline: August 31, 2018

Start date: Mid-September 2018

Location: Houston Audubon Field Station, High Island, TX

Duties and Responsibilities

The bird conservation technicians will assist the Sanctuaries Manager in day-to-day operations of Houston Audubon's Upper Texas Coast sanctuaries. Technicians will primarily aid in native habitat restoration of coastal sanctuaries utilizing chainsaws, tractor, sprayers, UTV and herbicides to remove non-native invasive plant species. She/he will also be expected to conduct three shorebird transect surveys/month, weekly rookery surveys on land and by boat, assist with volunteer workdays, and trail maintenance/construction. He/she will also be responsible for monitoring two new rookery islands constructed January 2018 including nesting platform construction, vegetation surveys, and tree plantings. Other duties include, but not limited to, infrastructure maintenance, visitor services, assisting visiting researchers, participating in citizen science projects (Christmas Bird Counts, eBird, iNaturalist), educational/outreach programs, public/volunteer interactions, and keeping up with weekly social media posts. This is a 6-9 month seasonal position, \$10/hr up to 40 hours per week located on the Bolivar Peninsula. Benefits not included. Shared housing will be provided at Houston Audubon's Field Station in High Island, TX. Recent graduates encouraged to apply.

Background - About Houston Audubon

Houston Audubon, founded in 1969, is a nonprofit charitable conservation organization committed to enhancing life on the Upper Texas Coast for birds and people. It is dedicated to advancing the conservation of birds and positively impacting their environments through habitat conservation, environmental education, and conservation advocacy. Houston Audubon owns and manages 17 sanctuaries in five counties, which includes the well-known High Island and Bolivar Flats sanctuaries. It delivers hundreds of nature-based program experiences for children and adults every year.

Desired Qualifications and Skills:

- Bachelor's degree in natural resource related field.

- Strong interest and experience in avian conservation.
- Experience with field work and avian surveys. Shorebird ID skills, preferred.
- Excellent physical condition. Able to lift and carry up to 50 lbs short distances, perform hard physical work for extended and irregular periods under adverse conditions including, but not limited to, repeated pushing, pulling, bending, kneeling, squatting, extreme heat, biting/stinging insects, venomous snakes and alligators, REQUIRED.
- Willing and able to use chainsaws and other power/hand tools with minimal supervision. Training provided.
- Ability to work, live, and interact with diverse individuals and work independently of supervisor, REQUIRED.
- Mechanical aptitude and common sense problem solving skills.
- Outgoing and enthusiastic about birds, wildlife, and working outdoors.
- Vehicle for personal use, REQUIRED.

Salary: \$10/hour up to 40 hours per week.

Application guidelines: Please send cover letter, resume, and contact information for 2 references as a **SINGLE** pdf or word document to Pete Deichmann, Sanctuaries Manager, pdeichmann@houstonaudubon.org. Position will remain open until filled.