BREEDING BIRD SURVEY INTERN

Job Qualifications: Background and/or demonstrated experience in biology or ecology. Knowledge of ornithology and field techniques are desirable, but not required. Experience working with volunteers preferred. Applicants should be organized and attentive to detail, feel comfortable working with members of the public, and have people skills. Applicants should also be an optimist, life-long learner, inviting, good team player, and able to work independently. Knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel is required; familiarity with website management is a plus.

Job Family: Conservation Science Department

Job Title: Breeding Bird Survey Intern

Job Status: Intern, exempt

Reporting Relationships: Reports to the Conservation Scientist

Internship Description: The North American Breeding Bird Surveys (BBS) is the nation’s largest and longest running citizen science project. It has been used to monitor avian population trends since 1966, and is the leading trend indicator cited in bird listing petitions. Because the reliability of this index depends on the number of routes run by trained volunteers, recruiting and training dedicated citizen scientists is essential for this program. Historically, Utah has struggled with sparse data and low completion rates for breeding bird surveys. Starting in 2016, Tracy Aviary is partnering with Utah’s Division of Wildlife Resources to build an outreach and training program that will support the 200+ BBS volunteers scattered statewide, recruit new volunteers, coordinate regional training workshops, and build a robust volunteer network across Utah.

The Breeding Bird Survey intern will help develop and implement a second year of outreach, training, and coordination efforts for North American Breeding Bird Survey routes in Utah. The intern will also work on other projects in the conservation science department as time allows. The primary responsibilities for this project are:

- Help verifying the information from current Breeding Bird Survey participants
- Help coordinate with local partners to arrange training across the state
- Help collect and analyze data from online /paper survey to birders and birding groups
- Help with the development and implementation training modules
- Help to prepare materials for the regional trainings
- Update and populate the website and maintain paper correspondence as needed
- Support specific activities of the conservation science program as needed

Starting Date: Flexible. Early to mid-March preferred.

Duration: Four months

Hours/week: 15

Compensation: $400/month