

## **MARSHBIRD MONITORING PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

### **Indiana Division of Fish & Wildlife**

**Location:** Bloomington, IN

**Term:** full-time, intermittent (1560 hours/ year or 180 days/year, whichever comes first, w/ a required month off)

**Salary:** \$16.80/hour

**Start Date:** September 23, 2024

**End Date:** August 29, 2025, with the possibility for renewal

**Description:** This position is stationed at the Indiana Division of Fish Wildlife (DFW) Bloomington Field Office and is responsible for the implementation of an ongoing comprehensive volunteer marshbird monitoring program at three sites in southern Indiana. The position may also assist the Ornithology Program's field projects and other wildlife related projects. Specific duties of the marshbird position will be to:

#### **1. Volunteer Coordination**

- Train and coordinate 15 volunteers in marshbird monitoring either in-person or through a virtual platform.
- Organize and distribute marshbird and habitat sampling materials for training workshops that include field-based learning experiences; develop and administer tests in marshbird identification
- Manage and distribute supplies and datasheets to volunteers and coordinate collection of these materials at the end of the field season.
- Oversee volunteer marshbird surveys and provide guidance when needed.
- Collect and report volunteer hours and mileage on a bi-weekly basis to submit to funding sources.
- Enter data into appropriate databases as instructed.
- Report results to volunteers on an ongoing basis.
- Analyze final data and write annual summary of results to distribute to volunteers and partners and coordinate end-of-season meetings with volunteers and partners.

#### **2. Survey Preparation & Fieldwork**

- Coordinate access to field sites with land managers (e.g., by submitting permit applications).
- Ground truth survey points at three field sites using GPS or Google maps; prepare maps of field sites with survey points identified for distribution to volunteers.
- Conduct marshbird surveys
- Prepare, deploy, and maintain 10 autonomous recording units (ARUs) throughout the field season.
- Prepare field sites for volunteers, including the installation of water gauges and stakes at survey points.
- Gather quotes and prepare purchase orders for supplies.
- Conduct habitat surveys at greater than 80 marshbird survey points.
- Collect environmental DNA (eDNA) according to standard protocols.

**Preferred Experience:** Applicants should:

- Be organized and meticulous with training volunteers and collecting and submitting data and samples.
- Have excellent interpersonal and presentation skills and must communicate regularly with their supervisor and volunteers.
- Have previous experience in bird identification and wildlife fieldwork.
- Be able to readily use a GPS unit or Google Maps App.
- Be familiar with using virtual meeting platforms for training volunteers.
- Be able to drive long distances, as some field sites are a couple hours away from the office.

Being able to haul a trailer and use an ATV is preferred, but not necessary. Training in the standardized marshbird monitoring protocol will be provided.

**Additional Information:** Duties are performed in an office locale and in a variety of field environments that may require accessing difficult habitats (wetlands) and exposure to adverse conditions (heat, rain, biting or stinging insects). Applicant must be able to work independently and in a team setting. Workdays are variable but will typically occur on weekdays with frequent early mornings during the field season. Applicant must provide his/her/their own transportation to and from the DFW Bloomington Field Office; travel to and from field sites will be provided using a state vehicle. Some overnight travel for training may be needed. The applicant will also have the potential to work on other projects related to nongame and game wildlife. This is an excellent opportunity for recent graduates to gain experience working for a wildlife and natural resource agency.

**Application Process:** Email a cover letter and current resume or CV with three references to Allisyn Gillet, State Ornithologist [agillet (at) dnr.in.gov] by **Aug. 30, 2024**. Please label the e-mail as “Marshbird Monitoring Program Coordinator.” Please refer any questions to Allisyn Gillet at 812-822-3400.