

Field Research/Public Communications Assistant Intern Job Description

Category: Natural Science/Conservation Biology

Department: Draper Natural History Museum

Project: Bighorn Basin Golden Eagle Ecology

Job Title: Field Research/Public Communications Assistant

Overview: Golden eagles are the apex predators in the Bighorn Basin's sagebrush-steppe. Join the Draper Natural History Museum's East Yellowstone Raptor Initiative team and help monitor, capture, and band golden eagles and help develop exhibit, web-driven, and film projects to communicate the product and process of conservation science to the general public.

The Raptor Initiative is one component of a robust program of research and public education developed and delivered by the widely renowned Draper Natural History Museum, one of five museums of the Buffalo Bill Center of the West in Cody, Wyoming.

If you would like to learn more about field research, raptor research techniques, and methods of sharing scientific research with the public from a museum setting, the East Yellowstone Raptor Initiative may be the perfect way to spend your summer.

Status: Seasonal; up to 14 weeks between May and September

Supervisor: Reports directly to Dr. Charles Preston, Draper Natural History Museum Senior Curator and Director of the Project. For given duties, may report to Research Assistant Nathan Horton.

Specific Duties and Responsibilities:

- Monitor and document ongoing status of golden eagle nests and record prey deliveries
- Assist with capturing, banding, and collecting and processing tissue samples from nestling and recently fledged golden eagles
- Participate in nighttime roadside surveys to determine abundance of cottontails and jackrabbits
- Assist with collection and identification of golden eagle prey remains
- Assist with exhibit and documentary film production related to golden eagles and sagebrush-steppe ecosystem

Qualifications:

- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must possess valid driver's license and be able to drive four-wheel drive vehicles across rugged terrain
- Must be able to lift at least 50 pounds
- Must be able to traverse long distances in rugged, steep terrain
- Must have strong interest in wildlife, natural science, and communicating science to the public
- Must have strong work ethic, be dependable, and possess good observational skills
- Advanced skills in video, photography, website development, and/or rappelling useful, but not required