



## **2024 SEASONAL BANDER**

### **Organizational Background**

The Vermont Center for Ecostudies (VCE) is a leading conservation organization in New England with a mission to advance the conservation of wildlife and their habitats through research, monitoring, and community engagement. Our biologists investigate ecological topics across many organisms and scales, from mercury pollution in montane songbirds to the migratory ecology of insects. VCE is located near the Connecticut River in the vibrant community of Hartford, Vermont. Our staff is committed to creating a compassionate and inclusive workplace culture that values the physical and emotional well-being of all employees.

### **Position Summary**

VCE seeks to hire an experienced bird bander to help lead mist-netting efforts at high-elevation sites in the Green and White Mountain National Forests. This will be a full-time 12-week position beginning May 20<sup>th</sup> and ending August 9<sup>th</sup> (some flexibility is possible with start and end dates). This position will average approximately 40-hours per week (5 days a week) but will vary with project needs. Additional time and effort may be needed during the peak of the breeding season (mid/late-June). This seasonal bander will work on two VCE projects:

- 1) Weekly monitoring of bird species on Mt. Mansfield (VT) in support of a 30+ year research program using passive-effort mist-netting.
- 2) A complementary study of migratory connectivity and survival of female Bicknell's Thrush on Mt. Mansfield and Mt. Washington (NH) using Motus radio transmitters.

We welcome applications that demonstrate independent banding and leadership experience, and express the applicant's interest in challenging fieldwork in northern New England.

### **Responsibilities**

- Report to the project P.I. and assist with field logistics and planning
- Lead both passive and target mist-netting efforts at high-elevation sites
- Supervise seasonal interns and volunteers to assist with banding efforts
- Affix Motus radio tags on Bicknell's Thrush and monitor detections with receivers
- Collect and manage biological samples (feathers, blood)



- Collect, manage and enter data in an organized manner
- Participate in overnight field trips
- Assist with other data collection (e.g., insect sampling, habitat assessment) as needed

### **Minimum Qualifications**

- **At least 500 birds independently banded**
- Demonstrate a thorough understanding of best practices for ethical bird banding
- Experience with rugged field conditions
- Experience deploying transmitters (e.g., radio tags, geolocators) on small passerines
- Valid driver's license

### **Preferred Qualifications**

- Supervisory banding experience and/or leading a field crew
- Experience collecting bird blood samples from the brachial vein
- Experience providing public outreach with bird banding
- Experience with Motus tags and receivers

### **Compensation**

The seasonal bander will receive a weekly stipend of \$850 plus reimbursement for work-related travel at the current federal mileage rate.

### **How to Apply**

For questions about the position, please email Dr. Desirée L. Narango at [dnarango@vtecostudies.org](mailto:dnarango@vtecostudies.org). To apply, please submit the following materials to Dr. Ryan Rebozo ([rrebozo@vtecostudies.org](mailto:rrebozo@vtecostudies.org)) by Jan 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Applications will be reviewed as they are received.

1. Cover letter describing previous banding experience, relevant independent fieldwork, and leadership experience
2. Resume (please include number of birds independently banded with and without tags)
3. Contact information for at least two references; please include at least one person who supervised your previous banding experience.