

Seasonal Piping Plover Monitor
Organization: St. Louis River Alliance

Category: Seasonal/Temporary
Wages: \$16-18/Hr Based on Experience

Application Deadline: 4/1/24

Start date: Training begins April 25th, with monitoring season to start April 26th, or when ice is out.

Description: Positions available include 4-5 seasonal Piping Plover Monitors for 20-30 hours a week, from April 24th - June 15th, 2024. In the event that nesting behavior is observed, positions will be extended until August 31st. The employment extension will be determined by May 31st. Primary job responsibilities include monitoring selected sections of beach on Minnesota and Wisconsin Points during morning (6:00-9:00 am) and evening bird activity times (6:00-9:00 pm). If nesting occurs, monitoring will be extended to include shifts covering all daylight hours.

Additional opportunities for summer and fall field work available. Inquire during the interview.

Responsibilities of Plover Monitors:

- Monitor sections of beach on Minnesota and Wisconsin Point for Piping Plover activity.
- Walk 2-3 miles of beaches daily to accurately record beach conditions and bird activity.
- Use optics including binoculars and spotting scope to observe and identify birds on the beach.
- Camera skills highly encouraged for recording habitat changes and shorebird sightings.
- Complete data sheets for each location recording presence/absence data, habitat information, beach disturbance data, weather patterns, and report any illegal activities on the beach.
- Enter data and label all photographs for accurate record keeping.
- Observe and maintain the predator exclosure if a pair of Piping Plovers are nesting on site.
- Maintain site conditions by managing unwanted vegetation and woody debris, while also taking photos of beach conditions and/or disturbances on site.

Qualifications: Applicants with the following qualifications will be given preference, but all are encouraged to apply:

- In possession of or currently seeking a B.S. in biology, wildlife ecology, or a related field.
- Experience with bird identification and the ability to use a spotting scope.
- Experience collecting habitat data and completing legible data sheets.
- Ability to walk on sandy surfaces for extended periods of time while carrying a pack of equipment.
- Ability to lift and carry 30 pounds to complete habitat maintenance duties.
- Ability to use email, online calendars, and smartphone apps for scheduling and time tracking.
- Possess driver's license and willingness to use a personal vehicle.
- Demonstrated ability of on-time, consistent attendance, communicating well regarding lapses.
- Tolerance for conducting field work under adverse conditions including: early mornings, late evenings, cold weather, rain, heat, sun exposure, insects, wildlife hazards, and work in mildly remote locations.

Contact Person: Mikayla Erickson

To Apply: Email a resume and cover letter to projectleader@stlouisriver.org

Or mail resume and cover letter to:

St. Louis River Alliance, Attn: Mikayla Erickson
394 Lake Ave. S. Suite 604
Duluth, MN 55802