



Shaping the future for birds

American Bird Conservancy Rio Grande Joint Venture Conservation Coordinator

Position Summary:

Title: Rio Grande Joint Venture Coordinator

Supervisor: Vice President Joint Ventures

Application Deadline: February 26, 2016

Introduction:

American Bird Conservancy (ABC) is the only conservation group whose sole mission is to conserve native wild birds and their habitats throughout the Americas. ABC accomplishes its mission through direct action and by engaging the people, groups, resources, and strategies needed to succeed. It undertakes the full spectrum of bird conservation issues using advocacy and habitat conservation strategies.

ABC is seeking a dynamic conservationist with the drive and entrepreneurial spirit to develop programs and advance policies that will make a difference for The Rio Grande Joint Venture (RGJV) partnership. This Partnership consists of private, state, and federal conservation organizations committed to a collaborative, strategic approach to advancing the goals and objectives of international, national, regional, and state bird conservation plans within the Chihuahuan Desert (BCR 35), Tamaulipan Brushlands (BCR 36), and that portion of the Gulf Coastal Prairie (BCR 37) south of the US-Mexico border. The primary plans/initiatives that provide a context for RGJV efforts include the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan, Partners in Flight, North American Waterbird Conservation Plan, North Bobwhite Conservation Initiative and State Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategies as they pertain to bird and bird habitat conservation.

The person in this position serves as the Coordinator for the Rio Grande Joint Venture (RGJV) partnership, and assumes principal responsibilities for initiating, facilitating, integrating, coordinating, communicating, and directing the work and activities of the partnership. Work and activities relate to several primary functional aspects of Joint Venture implementation and administration, including biological planning, conservation design, conservation delivery, research, monitoring/evaluation, and Communication/Outreach. The Coordinator works collaboratively with the RGJV Management Board, working groups, teams, and other partners to develop, initiate and link priority work assignments within these functional areas and provide the oversight and direction necessary for successful completion. The Coordinator represents the interests of the RGJV and its partners in a variety of professional forums. The Coordinator plays a key role in developing, maintaining and advancing a strategic, landscape oriented, partnership-driven approach to integrated migratory bird conservation in the geography of the RGJV.

Primary Duties and Skills:

- Coordinates the accomplishment of actions approved by the RGJV Management Board that contribute to the goals and objectives of state, regional, national and international bird conservation initiatives and plans (e.g., North American Waterfowl Management Plan, Partners in Flight, etc.) and that relate to the RGJVs strategic approach to bird conservation.
- Clearly defines work assignments and priorities to partnership members, outlining objectives and goals to be accomplished, and timelines within which to complete them; reviews work at critical junctures/phases, suggests necessary modifications, and provides appropriate oversight.
- Knowledge of theory, principles, and methods of migratory bird management and research, and their application in the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats.
- Knowledge of the theories and principles of landscape ecology, ecosystem management, and adaptive resource management and their application to conservation planning at multiple spatial and temporal scales.
- Working knowledge of the USFWS Strategic Habitat Conservation approach and a basic understanding of the Joint Venture “Matrix”.
- Coordinates RGJV meetings/workshops; facilitates internal and external communication; provides oversight regarding the development and implementation of projects; and evaluates and reports short- and long-term results.
- Facilitates cooperation and communications among government and non-government entities, as well as among private citizens and landowners — dealing with a variety of perspectives and potentially conflicting interests.
- Provides assistance to the Joint Venture Management Board by coordinating meetings; by serving as an intermediary for communication among Board members and agencies; and by coordinating development and implementation of projects, tracking accomplishments, and evaluating long-term results.
- Stimulates technical and media support for Joint Venture activities and projects.
- Exercises patience, tact, understanding and respect in addressing and balancing a variety of perspectives and interests that influence the partnership's direction and priorities.
- Develops and manages budgets and funding allocations related to RGJV operations. Seeks external funding through grants, partners and cooperative arrangements. Ensures that all RGJV obligations are met/exceeded.
- The RGJV Coordinator must be able to work independently with little supervisory oversight on a daily basis. In addition must provide strong leadership and vision to implement the Conservation priorities of the partnership.
- Be a public spokesperson for conservation.

Position Requirements:

- A background in bird conservation, biology, landscape ecology or similarly related field, with more than 5 years’ experience.
- Masters degree or higher preferred, but others will be considered with relevant experience.
- Spanish language skills preferred.

Other Duties:

- Significant travel required throughout the year (35%+). Including travel within Mexico.
- Office location is preferred to be located within the RGJV geography. (US)
- Salary dependent on experience, but will be comparable to other Joint Venture Coordinators.
- The Coordinator position will be hosted by American Bird Conservancy (ABC) and will be entitled to all the benefits and administrative support that comes with being an employee.
- The Coordinator position will be dual supervised by RGJV Management Board and ABC
- The Coordinator will serve as the supervisor of the RGJV Assistant Coordinator.
- Demonstrated ability to translate strategic, visionary ideas into functioning, sustainable programs and initiatives that produce lasting results.
- Experience in working with international partners, networks, and governments. Demonstrated success in working with a work wide variety of people and partner institutions, and in cross-cultural situations.
- Ability to build, lead and manage multiple campaigns or projects concurrently, and meet deadlines.
- Ability to both take direction and build consensus.
- Excellent oral and written communications skills.
- Technical proficiency in writing and reviewing scientific research. Knowledge of basic geospatial analysis and basic statistics a plus.
- Able to travel, often on short notice.
- Highly committed to conservation and to ABC's conservation mission (see www.abcbirds.org).

Application Instructions:

Please email a cover letter and resume as one document (either Word or as PDF)
to: hr@abcbirds.org

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