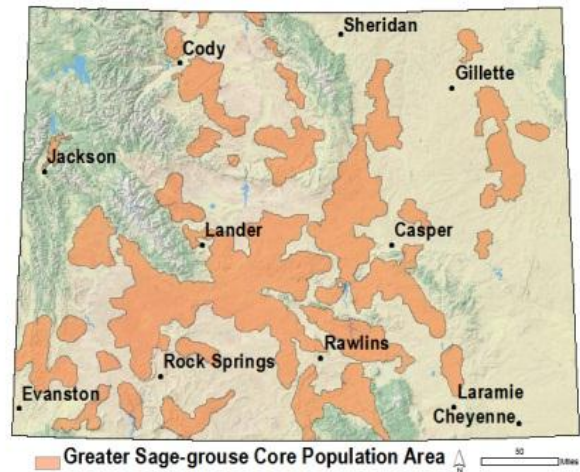




Seeking 4 highly motivated wildlife technicians to assist in collecting field data to examine the effectiveness of sage-grouse protected areas as a conservation umbrella for non-game wildlife species of concern in Wyoming.

## Project Information:

The state of Wyoming recently designated nearly 25% of the state as Greater Sage-grouse Core Population Area as part of a larger effort to conserve the species and circumvent listing under the U.S. Endangered Species Act. These core areas serve as a natural laboratory for understanding how management efforts designed to meet the needs of sage-grouse affect co-occurring non-target wildlife species. While researchers have implicated the greater sage-grouse as a potential umbrella species (i.e., useful in delineating protected areas which also confer protection to other wildlife) for nearly a decade, studies which rigorously test this idea with experimental and field data are still scarce. The overall aim of this project is to help wildlife managers understand the contexts under which multiple sagebrush-associated wildlife species' needs may be met with limited available resources, and offer general insight into the application of the umbrella species concept as a wildlife management strategy.



This field season, we intend to examine the following areas of interest across sage-grouse core area designations in Wyoming's sagebrush steppe:

- Occurrence of focal non-game species (avian, small mammal, and reptile)
- Reproductive success of sagebrush-obligate passerines (Brewer's sparrow, sage sparrow, sage thrasher)

Technicians will gain exposure to a wide array of wildlife taxa (avian, small mammal, and reptile species) and methods (see below) in this cooperative project between the Wyoming Game and Fish Department and the Wyoming Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at the University of Wyoming.

Fieldwork will occur in western Wyoming from early May through mid-August 2012 (start and end dates somewhat flexible) at study sites in the foothills of the beautiful Wind River Range, within several hours of Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. Housing will be provided in the Lander or Jeffrey City, WY area.

## Duties:

The technician's duties will likely include, but are not limited to:

- Line transect surveys, nest searching/monitoring, and color banding for birds (focused on passerines)
- Line transect surveys for reptiles
- Burrow and pellet searching for pygmy rabbits
- Habitat quantification
- Data entry and management using Excel, Access, GPS, and ArcGIS

## Qualifications:

Applicants must:

- Be willing to work long hours both independently and with other crew-members
- Spend extended periods (5 days/week) in a relatively remote area of the U.S. (all nearby cities have populations < 10,000 each)
- Enjoy early morning work
- Be able to hike up to 5 miles/day over uneven terrain, sometimes in inclement weather
- Have excellent vision and hearing
- Responsibly operate a 4WD vehicle (likely manual transmission) and possess a valid driver's license
- Be able to live peaceably with others in bunkhouse-type quarters

Preferred applicants will:

- Possess a keen interest in wildlife conservation and ecology, enjoy research, and understand the scientific method
- Be currently enrolled in (or have completed) an undergraduate degree in wildlife science or a related field
- Be able to identify western wildlife species by sight and/or sound (especially birds)
- Have prior field experience in one or more of the survey methods mentioned above
- Be meticulous in data collection and recording
- Have excellent interpersonal skills and a positive attitude

## Compensation:

\$10.00 - 11.50 per hour (~\$1,800 - \$2,000 per month) depending on experience. Housing and vehicle (for within-field travel) will also be provided.

## Application Procedure:

Please submit applications as soon as possible. The closing date is March 1, 2012; but hiring will begin once suitable applicants are found. To apply, e-mail the following three items: 1) Cover letter, 2) Resume, 3) Three work-related references (name, phone number, and email address) to Jason Carlisle [[jason.d.carlisle@gmail.com](mailto:jason.d.carlisle@gmail.com)]. The subject line should read "Wildlife Technician Application." Feel free to email with any questions.

