

## **Maine Audubon Job Announcement**

**Position Title:** Wildlife Ecologist

**Location:** Falmouth, Maine

### **Maine Audubon**

Maine Audubon is a nonprofit conservation organization based in Falmouth, Maine, whose mission is to conserve wildlife and wildlife habitat by engaging people in conservation, education, and action.

### **Purpose of the position:**

This full-time position will be part of the Conservation Team at Maine Audubon, which is responsible for a variety of projects designed to conserve wildlife and habitat across the state of Maine; to educate and engage citizens and decision-makers in actions to conserve wildlife and habitat; and to advocate for strong environmental policies and laws. The Conservation Team consists of three wildlife ecologists, a conservation associate, and a policy and advocacy specialist, and works collaboratively on many projects and issues. The team works closely with education, communications, development and finance staff as well. Some weeknight and weekend work is required, as well as occasional overnight travel.

### **Overview of the position:**

This person will lead Maine Audubon's 35-year-old Loons and Lakes program and develop and oversee other short and long-term citizen science programs that help track and conserve Maine's wildlife populations as funding allows. The person will use these programs to engage members and the public in data collection, community outreach, and local and state advocacy. The person will collaborate on other conservation programs to conserve wildlife and habitats of conservation concern, with a current focus on forest birds, impacts from climate change, and renewable energy project siting and operations impacts. The person will work closely with other staff, state and federal agencies, and organizations to develop and advocate for public policies and programs that protect wildlife and wildlife habitat.

### **Responsibilities:**

- Recruit, manage, and support volunteer citizen scientists, and develop survey protocol, training materials, and workshops for volunteers.
- Develop new programs for citizen science volunteers that are in line with Maine Audubon's strategic plan and that help move people to action.
- Work with outside partners as needed to develop and coordinate programs.
- Communicate with volunteers through newsletters, web pages, email list serves, correspondence, etc. and cultivate long-term volunteer involvement.
- Develop and manage relational and online databases for coordinated data entry and analysis.
- Create educational materials and new outreach initiatives related to monitoring programs and species of conservation concern.

- Advocate for the protection and conservation of specific wildlife populations and habitats based on monitoring programs (e.g., loons and mercury/lead).
- Prepare and deliver expert testimony before Maine Legislature, Land Use Planning Commission, Board of Environmental Protection, or others as needed.
- Review and comment on state significant or precedent-setting development proposals that may have adverse effects on high value habitat or rare, threatened or endangered species.
- Conduct research and prepare technical reports on current and sometimes controversial policy issues (e.g. windpower siting, lead poisoning in loons).
- Help prepare op eds, press releases, social media posts, and be a resource for public and media inquiries.
- Prepare, regularly review, and monitor annual budgets.
- Develop new conservation projects and work with Director of Conservation, conservation staff and grants manager to write proposals and prepare grant reports.
- Actively participate in All Staff and Conservation Department meetings.
- Attend and present at professional conferences.
- Other duties as assigned.

### **Relationships:**

*Internal:* Reports to the Director of Conservation; supervises occasional interns, volunteers, and temporary field positions. Coordinates policy positions with other conservation staff, including staff advocate. Works with Education staff to present programs for public and with Communications staff to prepare articles, press releases, and other materials for publication.

*External:* Maine Audubon chapters; National Audubon state and national offices; various state and federal agencies; other NGOs working on forestry, lakes, and wildlife issues.

**Equipment:** Copy machines, digital projector and laptop for PowerPoint presentations, calculator, telephone, specialized field equipment such as bat detectors, bird song meters.

### **Qualifications:**

- Master's degree in wildlife biology, conservation biology or similar field.
- Research experience required.
- Knowledge of Maine wildlife conservation issues helpful.
- Experience with common loons, lakes, forest birds, and/or renewable energy highly desired.
- Ability to connect with people essential; understanding how to effectively communicate and motivate them to participate and "move people to action" desirable.
- Ability to work cooperatively with a diverse group of people and build long-lasting relationships with volunteers and other environmental organizations.
- Excellent organizational skills.
- Ability to manage multiple projects concurrently.

- General computer literacy, especially relational databases and spreadsheets.
- Research, writing and editing skills.
- Excellent communication skills - speaking and writing a must; familiarity with language that resonates with different audiences and social media helpful.

**Physical Requirements:**

Ability to carry office equipment and boxes and ability to walk over rough terrain with a full day pack required.

**How to Apply:**

To apply, please submit cover letter and resume to [jobs@maineaudubon.org](mailto:jobs@maineaudubon.org). Review of application materials will begin on Wednesday, October 31, 2018. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.