

2022/23 Raptor Conservation Internship

Dates: December 1, 2022 - November 15, 2023

Hours/per week: 40



POSITION DESCRIPTION:

This one-year Raptor Conservation Internship is an opportunity to become immersed in the work of a vibrant and growing conservation organization. This holistic experience includes exposure to all program areas at TRC including education, research, and rehabilitation, with additional opportunities to explore the operations and communications aspects of a nonprofit. We are looking for someone who is curious, enthusiastic, and ready to roll-up their sleeves to work hard, deepen the work of raptor conservation, and be part of a passionate team.

The programmatic focus will shift with the time of year. Time spent supporting TRC's communications will be incorporated into this *tentative* schedule throughout the full year (averaging one day per week).

- **Dec - February 2023:** Mixed Avian Care (both for avian ambassadors and rehab; 2d/wk), Outreach support (1d/wk), and Conservation & Research office/data support (2d/wk)
- **March - mid-June:** Conservation & Research focus - field work related to research projects
- **Mid-June - July:** Avian Ambassador Care & Outreach Focus - animal care and public programs
- **August - mid-September:** Raptor Rehabilitation Focus - rescue, rehabilitation, and release of injured, ill, and orphaned birds
- **Mid-Sept - Oct:** Conservation & Research - off-site fieldwork and office work related to research projects

AREAS of EMPHASIS :

Conservation/Research

- Support TRC's on-going research projects including but not limited to:
 - Skiing, snowshoeing, or hiking to off-trail to remote locations in the backcountry to set up automated recording devices, search for nests, and other data collection
 - Analyzing TRC's sound recording data (Goshawk, Boreal and Great Gray Owl)
 - Outreach support for lead-free campaign, including educational shooting demonstrations and other events, packaging/mailing, and creating digital content
 - Photo/video cataloging
 - Remote fieldwork to support data collection, including camping for several consecutive nights and early-morning fieldwork

- Spending up to several weeks at a time in remote field sites across Wyoming and Montana

Avian Care - Ambassadors and Rehab Patients

- Support all aspects of husbandry for the ambassadors and patients, including but not limited to:
 - Small animal care (live mice)
 - Cleaning enclosures
 - Preparing food
 - Medication administration
 - Record keeping
 - Flight training
 - Behavior observation
 - Enrichment
 - Handling the birds

Communications & Outreach

- Contribute to TRC's social media platforms and communications channels
 - Take photos and videos to create content to tell the stories of TRC's work.
- Support TRC's outreach programs by assisting and possibly leading public and private live raptor programs
 - Learn how to handle the resident raptors on glove
 - Present on the natural history, conservation message, and individual stories of each of TRC's resident birds
 - Load and unload kennels
 - Set-up and clean-up

Administration & Stewardship

- Support administrative activities, such as mailings, filing, and data organization
- Site stewardship:
 - Participate as a member of TRC's Green Team, supporting and executing on campus sustainability initiatives, including weekly recycling.
 - Participate in campus stewardship, such as cleaning and general maintenance and landscaping activities.

COMPENSATION/BENEFITS:

- Internships may be used for academic or vocational purposes. Interns are responsible for making the arrangements necessary to receive relevant credit as a result of completing the internship.
- Monthly stipend.
- On-site housing- As a condition of this opportunity, the individual must reside in TRC's workforce housing units.
- Use of TRC vehicles for Teton Raptor Center operations and programs.

QUALIFICATIONS & SKILLS:

Teton Raptor Center is seeking applicants with the following qualifications and skills:

- Excellent organizational skills and attention to detail
- Familiarity with digital media platforms
- Comfort with solo hiking for extended periods and for several miles hiking/skiing/snowshoeing off-trail over rugged terrain (in remote forests, sometimes with heavy downfall), navigation, and backcountry safety
- Familiarity with online research to locate and synthesize 3rd-party data (e.g., weather data)
- A love of nature and desire to share that passion with others
- Knowledge of science, natural history, and birds of prey (a strong interest in wildlife, enthusiasm, strong work ethic, maturity, and willingness to learn are more important than academic qualifications)
- Willingness to take initiative, roll-up your sleeves, problem solve, and multi-task effectively and with humor while working with a small group of very committed people
- Ability to perform physical tasks such as carrying a heavy backpack over several miles and lifting (up to 40 lbs.)
- Clean driving record and ability to navigate 4wd vehicles in rough terrain (ability to drive a stick-shift preferred but not required)
- Successful applicants will be required to have some personal field gear, including hiking boots, non-cotton field clothes, warm jackets, etc. Field gear such as snowshoes, GPS units, cross-country skis, and backpack will be provided (if needed).
- At least 21 years old
- Commitment to entire internship timeframe and ability and flexibility to experience many aspects of Teton Raptor Center's programs

ABOUT TETON RAPTOR CENTER:

Teton Raptor Center (TRC) is a non-profit organization advancing raptor conservation through education, research, and rehabilitation. TRC's educational programs reach tens of thousands of visitors annually. Our team of Avian Ambassadors includes 14 non-releasable raptors that are cared for and provided training and enrichment on a daily basis. Our research team works on dozens of research projects annually, both locally and in other parts of Wyoming and Montana. Our research projects include the largest and longest on-going study of Great Gray Owls anywhere in the world, as well as projects monitoring species like Golden Eagles, Ferruginous Hawks, Goshawks, and more. TRC rescues and rehabilitates over 150 raptors annually and recently received permits to rehabilitate corvids as well. These injured, ill and orphaned birds come from all over the state of Wyoming and Idaho. Finally, TRC works on several conservation projects aimed at keeping wild raptors safer in the wild. These include the Poo-Poo Project (Port-o-Potty Owl Project), an initiative to keep cavity-nesting owls and other raptors from becoming trapped in the ventilation pipes on vault toilets, and Sporting Lead-Free, an education-based initiative aimed at reducing the use of lead ammunition and tackle in the environment because of its effects on raptors.

EMPLOYMENT at TETON RAPTOR CENTER:

Teton Raptor Center is an equal opportunity employer with a smoke-free and drug-free workplace. Successful applicants will be required to pass a background check, driving check, and drug screening.

TO APPLY

Email your resume, cover letter, and three professional references to raptors@tetonraptorcenter.org with the subject line, "2023 Raptor Conservation Internship Application." Your application should be sent a single PDF file saved with your name and the internship in the file title (e.g., "LastName_FirstName_2023TRCInternship"). **Applications must be received by 12pm (Mountain Time) September 28, 2022 .**