

Field assistant in a project about European migratory bats

Position Description:

We are looking for a field assistant to help with data collection in a new project on the behavior and ecology of European migratory bats. Bats will be captured using a large trap at our Latvian field site (Pape Bird Ringing Station) at the coast of the Baltic sea.

We offer a beautiful work environment with lots of wildlife. The Baltic sea is right behind some sand dunes at walking distance from the station. Field assistants will be introduced to their work by experts in their field.

Because work is mostly taking place at night, this study is physically and mentally demanding. Hence, applicants should be able to stay motivated even when getting exhausted. The successful applicant will live at the station for three weeks with only limited internet access and overall basic facilities, e.g. small huts or tents for sleeping and basic sanitary facilities.

The main responsibilities of this position are to capture bats, take body measurements and fur samples, conduct bio-acoustic experiments and radio-track bats.

Qualifications/Experience: Previous field experience with bats is favorably.

Applicants should:

- have a background and strong interest in the biology of animals and particularly bats.
- be prepared for long working hours in the field.
- be open-minded and independent, prepared to adapt to living in a foreign culture, and able to work as part of a team.
- have a valid driving license is a plus

A good knowledge of English is an essential prerequisite for this position.

Salary/funding/travel expenses:

This is an unsalaried post; however, we will cover the transport costs in Latvia and the living costs at the station. Travel expenses to and from Latvia may be partly paid. The research assistant will be responsible for health insurance and vaccinations (proof of a valid rabies vaccination is a prerequisite).

Term of Appointment: The position is for 3 weeks, starting at around 10th of August 2014.

Application Deadline: As soon as possible, 30th April 2014 the latest. Please send an email with a one-page motivation letter, your CV, and the contact details of two references.

Contact Information: PD Dr. Christian Voigt

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