

PRBO Conservation Science
3820 Cypress Drive, #11
Petaluma, CA 94954
707-781-2555
www.prbo.org



Job Title: Spatial Ecologist

Pay Rate: Competitive, depending on experience and qualifications

Funding: currently available thru March 2011, with potential to extend

Hours/Benefits: Full time with competitive benefits

Application deadline: November 15, 2009 or until filled

PRBO Background

PRBO Conservation Science (PRBO) advances conservation through scientific research on birds and ecosystems. PRBO is a rapidly growing, non-profit organization with expertise in avian ecology, population biology, spatial ecology, ecosystem science, ecological modeling, conservation applications (including endangered species recovery, land and ocean management, ecological restoration, inventory and monitoring, and policy), and public education. PRBO plays a lead role regionally, nationally, and internationally in applying science to address critical conservation issues. For additional information, see www.prbo.org.

PRBO will focus its work over the next 5-10 years on the effects of environmental change (e.g., climate change, habitat change, food-web change) on birds and ecosystems, using long-term data, quantitative analyses, and modeling to develop science-based solutions to address these and other urgent environmental challenges.

Major Duties/Responsibilities:

Design and implement research projects using advanced spatial analysis and modeling, uncertainty analysis, and statistical methods to address current and future impacts of environmental change, particularly climate change and land-use change. This work will align closely with the needs and priorities of PRBO partners. Collaborate with state and federal agencies, other conservation NGOs, policy makers, and private landowners.

Reports to Informatics Division Director and collaborates with all of PRBO's science divisions (Marine, Terrestrial and Wetland) and initiatives (California Current, Central Valley, Climate Change, San Francisco Bay and Central Coast, and Sierras). Leads in developing projects and fundraising efforts to support these activities.

Qualifications Required:

PhD and/or 5-10 years professional experience in natural sciences, earth sciences, conservation biology, and/or computer /computational sciences or related disciplines, with an established record of publication, project management, and/or partnership development. Expertise in interdisciplinary applications of spatial statistics, spatial modeling, landscape ecology, risk analysis, geospatial visualization, and/or prioritization and optimization decision theory is required. An established track record of using these skills within a climate-change framework and working

knowledge of IPCC climate scenarios, global climate models, and climate model downscaling is desirable. An ornithological background is helpful, but not necessary. Excellent verbal and written skills are essential.

Projects and Research:

Projects and research will be jointly developed with collaborating divisions and initiatives, as determined in consultation with Division Directors and the Chief Conservation Science Officer.

Examples of projects and typical duties may include:

- Development of spatial modeling approaches;
- Application of downscaled climate models to assess potential impacts of climate change and/or land-use change on the distribution, composition, and demographics of birds;
- Spatial and temporal analysis of projected environmental change impacts and associated uncertainty;
- Use of spatial prioritization and optimization methodology to guide conservation efforts such as restoration or land purchase;
- Development or adaptation of data-mining techniques and algorithms for analyzing large volumes of geospatial and demographic data;
- Supervise staff on technical projects;
- Lead and support PRBO proposal development in collaboration with PRBO's divisions and initiatives;
- Foster partnerships with scientists and staff in academic institutions, NGOs, state and federal agencies, and conservation collaboratives;
- Represent PRBO's science at national and international conferences, publish peer-reviewed journal articles, and contribute to PRBO's outreach to the public.

Pay Rate, Benefits, Working Conditions and Funding

Salary is competitive, depending on qualifications and experience. PRBO offers 100% health care coverage, full dental care, and partial coverage of dependents including domestic partners, following the conditions stated in PRBO's Personnel Manual. PRBO headquarters in Petaluma, California, will be the base location for the successful candidate. This position will require moderate travel (mostly in San Francisco / Sacramento area) and involve some weekends and evenings. Funding is secured until March 2011; extended employment may be possible based on successful fundraising and employee's performance.

To Apply

E-mail: (1) cover letter describing qualifications for this position and interest in PRBO, (2) complete CV/resume, and (3) contact information (including phone numbers and e-mail addresses) for 3 references to Dr. Mark Herzog at mherzog@prbo.org with "**Spatial Ecologist**" in the subject line. Applicants may be subject to background checks. Application deadline is November 15, 2009; the position will remain open until a successful candidate has been identified. PRBO is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Contact Mark Herzog or John Wiens (jwiens@prbo.org) for additional information.