Alcatraz, notorious for the former federal penitentiary, is also the site of a very large and important breeding colony for several different egret, heron, and seabird species, including Western gulls. Also, the island is home to San Francisco Bay’s only Brandt’s cormorant colony and one of its most important black-crowned night-heron colonies. Alcatraz’s rookeries are among the most accessible, offering visitors abundant opportunities to observe avian natural history up close.

**Job Title**  
Waterbird Docent

**Location**  
Alcatraz Island, Golden Gate NRA  
San Francisco

**Hours per Month**  
6-8 hours (3-4 hours biweekly) minimum

**Description of Duties**  
During active seabird nesting season, from April 1 through August 31, you will assist visitors to Alcatraz in understanding the behavior, feeding, breeding and ecology of nesting seabird species. The docent will staff an outdoor station within view of a seabird colony and explain the activities of the breeding populations, answering additional questions as needed. S/he will set up and tend a spotting scope and/or lend binoculars to help visitors get a closer look at the seabirds and gain a better appreciation of the colonies’ dynamics.

**Responsibilities**  
Staff wildlife viewing station  
Explain current activities of breeding birds  
Tend spotting scope and binoculars for lending  
Respond to visitor queries

**Knowledge and Skills Desired**  
Interest in wildlife and especially birds  
Good people skills  
Willingness to work in harsh (cold, windy, foggy, sometimes hot!) environment

**Benefits**  
Training in seabird biology & ecology (March 2010)

**Contact**  
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