



**Alaska Bird Observatory
Rusty Blackbird Project, Yukon Flats NWR
Field Intern**

POSITION DESCRIPTION: The Alaska Bird Observatory, Fairbanks, AK is accepting applications for Field Interns to participate in a study of the breeding biology and habitat associations of Rusty Blackbirds. This primarily field-based position will involve helping to conduct surveys for blackbirds, nest searching and monitoring, habitat sampling, target-netting, re-sighting of color bands, and collecting of tissue samples. The field interns will live and work out of a remote tent camp in Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge in interior Alaska. Access (provided) to field camps will be by helicopter or small plane. Access to grocery stores, showers, and other comforts will occur only at the beginning and end of field season. Communication will be limited to mail or occasionally radio contact. The workday begins very early in the morning (leave camp at 4:00 am.). Field Interns will help the biologists with all aspects of their duties and data collection.

QUALIFICATIONS: Successful candidates must be physically capable of walking long distances, up to several miles a day, over rough, muddy, and difficult terrain carrying a daypack. Field conditions will involve difficult weather (snow early in the season, hot and dry at the end), large numbers of insects, and possible encounters with dangerous wildlife including moose and bears. Must be able to tolerate isolated conditions with a small number of people. Must be able to handle primitive shower, laundry and restroom facilities. Candidates should be enthusiastic about wildlife and learning new skills. Experience with birds, camping, powerboats and outboard motors a plus. Must be able to tolerate travel by helicopter and/or small airplanes. Must pass a gun safety course (provided) and be willing and able to legally carry a firearm. Must be able to discriminate: red, orange, yellow, green, light green, blue, dark blue, purple, pink, hot pink, dark pink, brown, black, white, and gray to read color bands through binoculars.

Seasonal position: May1 –July 31 2010

SALARY & BENEFITS: \$840/monthly taxable stipend. Lodging: camping, laundry, shower facilities, and bicycle transportation provided while in Fairbanks. Tent camp while in the field. Travel Reimbursement: Up to \$ 850.00 round trip with receipt. Transportation to and from the airport provided.

TO APPLY: Please submit a resume, cover letter, names and phone numbers of three references electronically to April Harding Scurr - April1bird@yahoo.com