



Application for Field Season Volunteers
Applications accepted: January 1st through March 15th

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Completed _____

Step 1:

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

If this is a temporary address, please list your permanent home address and indicate dates when your permanent address should be used:

Email Address: _____

Phone number(s). Include times available Daytime: _____

Evening: _____

Cell: _____

Step 2:

Given the remote location of our field sites, the scenarios listed below pose extreme difficulties for our program. If you answer **yes** to any of the first 14 items below, this program may **not** be for you.

YES NO

- YES NO I have an existing health problem that would require immediate attention or pose a life threatening risk if exacerbated.
- YES NO I suffer from moderate to severe arthritis.

YES NO

- I have a non-correctable visual deficit or have difficulty seeing clearly through binoculars or a spotting scope.
- I have complex dietary restrictions or allergies.
- I have difficulty sitting in one place for extended periods of time (observation periods are usually three-hours long at least twice per day in a cramped wood blind.)
- Irregular terrain (hiking over boulder fields carrying gear) poses problems for my ankles or knees.
- I prefer not to work in damp, wet or foggy weather.
- Motion sickness effects linger more than one day.
- I suffer from claustrophobia (fear or morbid dread of confined spaces).
- I must have freedom and space to roam to comfortably coexist in a cramped environment with a small group of co-workers.
- Existing family or household issues may require my premature departure from the field site or frequent contact with persons on the mainland.
- I prefer not to work higher than ground level.
- I require space to run for exercise. (Islands range in size from 3 to 65 acres; however, much of this area is restricted to nesting seabirds. (Optional modes of exercise include jumping rope; hula hooping; weight lifting and rowing).
- I strongly disagree with the idea of lethal gull control. (Lethal control may be used as a last resort to protect the seabird colony. Supervisors are required to participate.)
- Do you have excellent verbal and written English skills?
- I can provide my own tent, sleeping bag, sleeping pad, and/or binoculars (*please circle items you will provide*).

Step 3:

A limited number of full-season stipend (paid) Research Assistant positions are available and the remaining positions are filled with volunteers from the categories listed below.

I am applying for the following position(s):

- Aviculturist** *Go to section 3-A*
- Full-season Volunteer** *Go to section 3-B*
(approx. dates May 23 through Aug 15 – can vary slightly by year).
- Short-term Volunteer** *Go to section 3-B*
(minimum 16 days, includes a travel day to Maine and another as your departure date)

Please refer to the Positions Descriptions on our web site <http://projectpuffin.audubon.org/field-opportunities> for more details.

3-A. AVICULTURIST VOLUNTEER Research Assistant Positions:

Must be employed at or a certified volunteer at an aquarium or zoo. Sponsoring institution is asked to contribute \$250 toward food expenses.

Institution Name: _____

Please indicate specific dates or date ranges you are available: _____.

3-B. VOLUNTEER Research Assistant Positions:

ALL Volunteer applicants must be available **for at least 16 days**, 14 of which will be spent on an island. Logistics and transportation availability affect scheduling and are used as a guide for filling openings.

Preference given to persons available for the full season (generally May 23 through Aug 15, but dates can vary slightly each year). Number of available positions varies each season based on research requirements. Peak time for volunteers is between June 1 and July 30.

Dates (or date range) I am available _____

Are these dates flexible? YES ____ NO ____

Check any of the following that apply:

- I am enrolled in a graduate or undergraduate program.
- I am a teacher interested in incorporating my experience in future lesson plans.

Age/grade and subject area(s) _____

- I wish to contribute \$1,500 to cover food and travel expenses. (Do not include with application)

Step 4:

I understand the following about the position(s) for which I am applying:

NO YES

Participation and Supervision: I understand that Seabird Restoration Program research goals are detailed in annual work plan that is dependent on my active participation and cooperation. I also understand that an Island Supervisor manages activities each research site and I agree to operate under their direction.

Work Description and Schedule:
I am expected to participate in all Program activities as scheduled. The daily schedule is determined by each Island Supervisor based on research needs. Activities include: morning (0600 hrs) bird counts; at least two 3-hour sessions of observations/data recording from observation blinds each day (or as scheduled); laptop computer data entry; camp chores and other duties that may be deemed necessary by the site supervisor. Hands-on work in the seabird colonies may include banding, blood collection, weighing and measuring depending on the specific site research plan. In consideration of the welfare of the birds, Island Supervisors may place restrictions on my participation if my level of dexterity in handling birds or eggs or my ability to maneuver safely through the colony has a negative impact on the birds. In some locations, vegetation and trail management are required. Seabird activity occurs 7 days a week and the work schedule is based on their activities and the weather.

NO YES

- Personal Time:**
Personal time on the mainland for Research Assistants scheduled to rotate between islands may be limited due to logistics or scheduling limitations. Two-week volunteers remain on an assigned island until the day before scheduled to depart from Bremen, unless other arrangements are agreed upon ahead of time. "Free time" while on the island varies and is scheduled by the Supervisor and is contingent on and weather and research demands.
- Work Site:**
I will be living and working on an island with a small group of people (2 to 7 depending on the site) and understand that communication, cooperation, completion of assigned tasks and interaction with members of the team are necessary.
- Communications:**
I will be residing on islands in field camps where communication options are limited. Seabird Restoration Program cell phones are restricted to business use only. I may bring a cell phone for personal use, but understand that phone calls and texting during data collection periods is prohibited. Some cellular companies do not service Mid-Coast Maine and offshore regions, and some islands have no service.
- Early Termination:**
National Audubon's Seabird Restoration Program reserves the right to terminate our contract early if I fail to fully participate in activities or if personnel issues negatively impact the research activities or "island community." Otherwise, I agree to arrive and depart on dates indicated in our contract. This applies to volunteers and stipend employees.
- Substance Abuse:**
I understand the drug use or alcohol abuse is prohibited during my contract period and failure to comply will result in early termination of our contract. This applies to volunteers, stipend and regular employees.

Step 5:

Please provide the **names, addresses and telephone numbers and email addresses** for three individuals we may contact for a reference. Please indicate whether they are personal or employment contacts.

	Personal	Employer
1. _____ _____ Telephone & Email: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. _____ _____ Telephone & Email: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. _____ _____ Telephone & Email: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Step 6:

Complete the following:

Please tell us about yourself. (Please attach a resume in addition to providing a summary here.)

Why do you want to participate in Audubon's Seabird Restoration Program?

Describe your previous field research experience. If none, please describe other experience(s) you feel required similar skills or aptitude.

List skills or experience that will enhance our program. (e.g. boating, birding, carpentry, etc.)

Step 7:

Email completed application to Susan Schubel at sschubel@audubon.org