**Job Title:** Hawaiian Honeycreeper HYCC Research Assistant

Added here on 13 Aug 2008

**Job Type:** full-time temporary position

**Opportunity location:**

**Closing date (if specified):** 15 Oct 2008

**Opportunity Description:**

RESEARCH ASSISTANT needed for nest studies of Maui Parrotbill and Akohekohe, endangered forest honeycreepers, on Haleakala, Maui, Hawaii. One position is available starting in either November or January (flexible start date) and continuing until the end of October 2009. The research assistant will be in the field intensely January through June and then trade off between office and field work the duration of the year. Primarily we focus on Maui Parrotbill. They are rare (502+116) and nests are extremely difficult to find. Additionally, this will be the first field season studying Akohekohe (~5000) and for carrying out forest transect point counts each month. This is a field based research position but assistants will be responsible for both field and office duties. Primary field duties will be: (1) locating and monitoring Maui Parrotbill and Akohekohe nests to determine nest success and causes of failure; (2) collecting field data on nest sites and reproductive behavior and re-sighting banded individuals; (3) collecting field data about other Hawaiian honeycreepers; (4) conducting monthly point counts for all native and non-native species. Field duties may also include; (5) maintaining alien predator control grids of rodenticide bait stations and mechanical traps; (6) aiding crew leaders with mist-netting and banding of Maui Parrotbill, Akohekohe and other forest birds; (7) assisting staff with other ongoing projects. Office duties include, but are not limited to office, vehicle and grounds maintenance, data entry, report writing, administrative clerical work, and preparation and maintenance of field equipment. Field duties are extremely physically challenging. Remote research sites require 9-12 hour hike across Haleakala crater at 5,000-9,000 ft elevation, living and working in small teams in extremely wet (annual rainfall up to 400 inches), cold, muddy and steep rainforest conditions at high elevations. Helicopters will be used to re-supply field camps. Basic aviation safety training is available. Work schedule will include 10-14-day field trips with alternating days in the office and re-supplying. Preference will be given to applicants who have experience with passerine research, forest bird nest searching and nest studies. Assistants must be able to work and live in remote field camps under extremely physically demanding conditions, to work independently and responsibly, have a good work ethic, take personal initiative and must have a valid drivers license. Desirable qualifications include a B.S. in ecology, biology, ornithology, botany or similar field; research with endangered birds; nest searching for forest birds; mist-netting and banding; small mammal trapping; GIS skills; First Aid qualification. This is an AmeriCorp funded position administered through the Hawaii Youth Conservation Corp. Benefits include: $1250 a month as well as a $4725 education award at the end, travel to at least two
conferences on Oahu during the year, housing and most field equipment, limited transportation on Maui and an opportunity to work in pristine native rainforest and gain field experience in avian conservation with a highly endangered species and ecosystem management. Applicants must provide their own airfare to Kahului, Maui. Please visit www.hawaiiycc.com for more information on the program. To apply send a letter of interest, resume, 3 references (with phone numbers and email addresses) by October 15th to: Maui Forest Bird Recovery Project, 2465 Olinda Rd. Makawao, HI 96768 or email (preferred): mauibirdjobs@yahoo.com with “HYCC job 2009” in the subject heading. An additional application is required for the HYCC program and can be downloaded @ www.hawaiiycc.com. For additional information on our project visit our website at www.mauiforestbird.org

For more info, contact:

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