Golden Gate Audubon engages people to experience the wonder of birds and to translate that wonder into actions that protect native bird populations and their habitats. Founded in 1917, we are one of the oldest and most respected conservation organizations in the Bay Area. Golden Gate Audubon is an independent non-profit, affiliated with the National Audubon Society.

We accomplish our mission by connecting people of all ages with birds and the natural world, conserving and restoring habitat, and engaging Bay Area residents in the protection of our shared, local environment. Golden Gate Audubon has over 7,000 members in San Francisco and the East Bay, an active Board of Directors, and a staff of six who mobilize over 2,000 volunteers each year.

The Mount Sutro Open Space Reserve (OSP) is comprised of a 61-acre area owned and managed by The University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), located south of the Parnassus Campus, as well as a neighboring 19-acre area owned by the city of San Francisco, located to the east of Medical Center Way. In March 2018 UCSF published a Vegetation Management Plan, outlining a 20-year, multi-phase plan to improve the overall health of the forest and mitigate fire risk. The first major tree work began in the Fall of 2018.

In March 2019 UCSF hired Golden Gate Audubon Society (GGAS) to conduct a bird survey to monitor the impact of the restoration work on the bird life. UCSF outlined 13 plots to be surveyed using a stationary area search protocol for 5-20 minutes per plot per visit, with
two visits each month, year round. Additionally, GGAS provides an annual report to UCSF outlining the findings of the survey each January.

The Position

The Conservation Research Associate (P/T) works closely with the Golden Gate Audubon Mount Sutro survey project manager to conduct bi-monthly bird surveys in the Mount Sutro OSP. The Research Associate is responsible for completing surveys following the protocols designed by UCSF and GGAS, as well as entering survey data into a Google Sheets spreadsheet. The Conservation Research Associate will assist the project manager on an annual report provided to UCSF.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Conducting bird surveys on Mount Sutro OSP twice each month, following all provided protocols. Start time is one hour after sunrise, and each survey date will take approximately 3-5 hours to complete.
- The survey requires standing for 5-20 minute periods, walking approximately 3 miles of rough trails, and ascending 400 feet of elevation.
- Entering survey data in a Google Sheet spreadsheet in a timely manner.
- Reviewing survey data for accuracy and completion.
- Working with the project manager to analyze survey data and produce an annual report of survey findings.

Qualifications

- Ability to identify common San Francisco bird species by sight and sound.
- Strong data collection, field note taking, organization, and communication skills.
- Proficiency in data entry using Google Sheets.

Compensation

The Conservation Research Associate (P/T) position is a temporary, part-time position, based on grant funding availability. The hourly wage is $33/hour, and without benefits. The anticipated schedule is 8-12 hours per month, which includes two survey days and data entry time.