

Deschutes Land Trust

Volunteer Position: Bird Surveyor

Bird Surveyor

Deschutes Land Trust bird surveyors are volunteers who regularly visit Land Trust protected lands to conduct bird surveys to monitor the activity of local bird populations. Avid birders and those just learning are welcome; training is provided

Difficulty: Requires hiking a variety of terrain on and off rail at Land Trust protected lands. Some will be higher mileages in more rugged terrain. Bird Surveyors can sign up for areas that work for them! Volunteers may encounter risks associated with terrain, wildlife, other users, and weather at any time.

Duties and Skills Needed

1. Represent Deschutes Land Trust in a professional, courteous, inclusive manner that reflects well on the organization and avoids conflict.
2. Independently visit Land Trust protected lands to identify and count birds. Bird surveyors can volunteer as many days as they like during the year. We do encourage bird surveyors to conduct a minimum of one survey per month from spring through fall migration. [Learn more about where bird surveys are needed.](#)
3. Follow simple survey protocols and submit observations via eBird.

Requirements

1. Complete the bird surveyor training:
 - a. Watch the bird surveyor orientation video.
 - b. Attend a bird surveyor site orientation.
2. Sign your annual waiver.
3. Conduct your bird survey, ideally once a month from spring-fall.
4. Submit your observations via eBird.

Safety

Bird Surveyors monitor their own health and safety when visiting Land Trust protected lands. However, to avoid emergencies, the Land Trust recommends that all Bird Surveyors carry the following safety items with them at all times during their visits: food, water, extra clothing, first aid kit w/emergency whistle, and a functioning/ charged cell phone. Finally, since many Bird Surveyors visit Land Trust protected lands on their own, we recommend that they notify someone in their household of their itinerary and return time when they plan a visit.

