

Mackenzie Nature Observatory is looking for Bander-in charge, 2nd bander and an assistant bander for our fall season at Mugaha Marsh July 19- September 23, 2019. The Bander in charge and 2nd bander work 5 days a week. The assistant bander gets a four-day week, working when one of the other two banders have days off which often means working most weekends. The wages range from \$160 per day to \$200 per day (Canadian) depending on experience.

Living conditions at Mugaha are rustic. There are older travel trailers and a camper that provide accommodations. Each bander has their own trailer or camper. There is a kitchen building that is for volunteers and the banders. It has a stove, fridge, microwave, kettle, coffee maker, some dishes and pots and pans. There is electricity on site, but no running water. Water must be brought out from town and banders are asked to fill water jugs when they are in town. Volunteers also help by bringing out water. Showers are available at the municipal campground in town. Banders and volunteers have to supply their own food. As the banding station is 14.5 km from town it is beneficial if banders have their own transportation.

The banding lab is a 12 x 20 frame building. The net lanes are mainly accessed from along the road. As some are a fair distance from the lab there are some older bikes available to use on net rounds. If you would want a bike helmet you would need to have your own. The net lanes aren't that well groomed and there may be some tripping hazards. Last fall we started building new boardwalks to some of the net lanes and we hope to complete them this spring. We open nets (12) at sunrise (changing on the 15-minute interval) and nets are open for 6 hours. The net rounds are done every half hour, more frequently if conditions warrant it.

A one-hour census is done daily so it is important that you can identify birds by both sight and sound. The census is done by a bander or an experienced volunteer.

Casual observations made by banders and volunteers are recorded throughout the day (they are separated into obs during standard banding and obs outside of standard banding hours.)

An estimated total is calculated at the end of the day.

Banding Data, Daily Estimated totals, effort data are computerized daily.

Photos taken need to be documented daily. Our annual report has a complete list of all birds we have banded at Mugaha. When a rare species is captured, we need photos to send to the banding office when we submit our data. Photos are needed for annual report.

A list of birds banded in the current season is maintained on the white board in the lab. A list of returns from previous years is posted as well – it can be done in excel and printed.

Banders need to do a report including photos for MNO's annual birding report and they should help with preparing the appendices.

The computerized data needs to be checked to the original and the numbers banded and recaptured in the ET must balance to the numbers in bandit.

Banders need the ability to work with people of all ages and skill levels.

Bird safety is very important. Banders need the ability to extract birds quickly and safely. You need to know how to read and understand Pyle. We want to know what experience you have had with banding and extracting birds.

Please send your resume and references to David dlambie@telus.net or Vi jlambie@telus.net by March 15th, 2019

In your application please let us know:

- Approx. number of birds you have extracted. The method(s) of extraction you use. Have you taught others to extract birds?
- What training have you had?
- Approx. number of birds banded. Have you ever acted as bander in charge at a banding station? Do you have any experience in training people to band?
- What experience you have with Western birds? Can you id them by sight and sound?
- Have you ever experienced a busy day at a station? If so how many banders were working and how many volunteer assistants?
- Do you have any experience in talking to a group at the lab about the banding you were doing? We sometimes get groups of Elementary Students, Scouts, University students and at times the board from one of our sponsors who visit the station.
- Have you ever banded hybrids or intergrades? MNO has captured Hybrid Sapsuckers (YBSA x RBSA), Hybrid Chickadees (MOCH x BCCH). We also capture intergrades in Norther Flickers, Yellow-rumped Warblers, and Dark-eyed Juncos. Although Solitary Vireo was split into Cassin's and Blue-headed an occasional bird can not be separated into one of the species so remains as Solitary in our data.
- What experience do you have with Empidonax flycatchers? MNO gets several different Empidonax Flycatchers – Alder, Least, Hammond's, Dusky are the common ones, but we have also had Pacific Slope and Yellow-bellied Flycatchers. We have had one Willow Flycatcher and a couple that were called Trails. We have a flycatcher chart that we ask banders to fill out when they encounter a difficult bird. The measurements taken will show why it was identified to be a given species. Pictures are also needed for rare birds.
- Do you have your own transportation?
- Do you have your own banding permit or subpermit?
- Will you be able to stay the full season? Are there any days you would need off (it helps with scheduling if I know ahead of time)?

Please provide references.