Help Endangered Birds...

Take a seasonal, part-time position with the Santa Ana Watershed Association.

The Santa Ana Watershed Association (SAWA) is now hiring seasonal, part-time field assistants to help manage Brown-headed Cowbird traps in the local area. Brown-headed Cowbirds are trapped during the spring and summer because they are brood parasites, meaning that they do not build their own nests but lay their eggs in the nests of other species. In doing so, the cowbirds interfere with the reproductive success of our native birds. SAWA is especially interested in improving the nesting success of the Least Bell’s Vireo, an endangered bird in southern California. Trapping cowbirds out of the habitat during the breeding season is helping the vireo population numbers increase, as well as that of other native songbirds.

Assistants are assigned a route of 5-10 traps and visit each trap on the route on their assigned work days. Routes usually take 3-4 hours per afternoon. Assistants will work closely with the area biologist and learn about the vireo and cowbirds and the area’s natural resources. This work is ideal for anyone interested in getting field experience with our native birds.

- SAWA biologists will train assistants in native bird identification
- Flexible hours
- Work up to five afternoons a week (including weekends), mid-March through the end of July 2020
- Must be able to collect accurate data and have working knowledge of Microsoft Excel
- Must own and operate a reliable car and provide proof of insurance
- Must have personal cell phone
- Pay is $14.00/hr. and mileage is reimbursed at the federal rate of $0.575/mile

If you are interested in a rewarding position that offers field experience and flexible hours, send your resume to Jennette El Morsy at jennette@sawatershed.org by February 7, 2020. If you would like additional information regarding duties of this position please contact Allyson Beckman at abeckman@sawatershed.org