

Volunteer Field Assistants wanted for White nose syndrome Bat project in Canada



Volunteers wanted **Mid April to the end of May 2014** to assist with a field project on little brown bats (*Myotis lucifugus*) and factors which may be important in managing the disease white nose syndrome (WNS) currently wiping out colonies of hibernating bats in the USA and Canada.

Field work will be in Manitoba in multiple teams each led by an experienced crew leader. Team volunteers will assist with capture and handling of individual bats as they emerge from hibernacula (caves or mines), tagging bats with passive transponders (PIT tags) and the deployment of PIT-tag recording systems. This is an excellent opportunity to obtain training and gain experience in field research with bats, disease ecology and basic electronics.

Food and accommodation in the field will be provided. You will be expected to get to Winnipeg by the start date and be ready to head out to the field. Accommodation will be basic; either camping or in rustic cabins. Training will be provided and no experience is necessary but candidates should have an interest in ecology, wildlife, field biology and animal behavior. A large amount of time will be spent camping or in basic accommodation in all weather conditions and, as such, successful applicants need to love the outdoors, be up-beat, positive, responsible and work well as part of a team. Experience working in cold (-15C) snowy climates desirable.

It is vital that all participants have pre-exposure rabies vaccinations or are willing to obtain them before joining us, so ensure you look into the costs and time involved for vaccination before applying.

We can only take applicants who are able to commit to the whole time period and who have had the full course of pre-exposure rabies vaccinations before joining us in the field.

If you have any questions or wish to apply for one of these posts please send a CV/resume with a cover letter and contact details of three references (with email addresses) by email to Mary-Anne Collis (macollis@gmail.com).

The deadline for applications is
14th March 2014 or until the positions are filled.

Contact:
macollis@gmail.com

