



Fall Bird Education & Research Traineeship

Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory

Location: Duluth, MN

Position Dates: August 27th- October 31st 2026

Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve is one of the premier fall bird migration sites in North America. Raptor migration research and education have been conducted at the site for over 50 years! It's the western-most count on the Great Lakes with an advantageous location on a rocky ridge overlooking the western tip of Lake Superior. Annual fall averages include 63,000 raptors and 200,000+ passerines/other birds counted and approximately 3,000 raptors banded. Fall migration highlights include an amazing diversity of 15-20 different raptor species! The Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory (HRBO) in Duluth, MN is the non-profit organization that manages and provides bird research and education at the nature reserve. The fall research and education staff of HRBO are key representatives in HRBO's mission of promoting conservation of raptors and other birds in the Western Lake Superior Region through research, education, and stewardship.

HRBO is currently seeking Trainees for the 2026 fall migration season. The HRBO Traineeship program is intended for those seeking hands-on professional experience in bird research and environmental education. Trainees will gain exposure and some experience in all 3 of our primary program areas: environmental education (outdoor interpretation and education for schools and visitors of all ages), bird migration count research (field techniques in identifying and counting birds), and bird banding research (field and research techniques in banding birds). Trainees will spend roughly 3 weeks in each program area and train with managers and key staff with extensive knowledge and expertise in the field. This is a great experiential opportunity to assist trainees in their next career step in the field and/or pursuit of higher-level education.

The HRBO Traineeship Program runs from August 27th to October 31st, 2026. In order to apply, trainees must be at least 18 years old, have a valid driver's license, and personal vehicle for transportation. A **stipend of \$225 per week** and lodging is provided.

To apply to the HRBO Traineeship Program, click [HERE](#). You will attach your cover letter and resume through that link. **Applications are due March 27th at midnight CDT.**

Please include in your cover letter and/or resume:

1. A description of the skills you hope to obtain through the traineeship program
2. A description of your educational and/or career goals upon completion of your traineeship
3. A description of courses/training and/or work experiences relevant to bird education/research

For further information, please visit our website at www.hawkridge.org. For questions, please email education@hawkridge.org or call (218) 428-6209.