

Dates: 14 May through 6 July 2012, with 7 weeks of field work and 1 week of data entry

Application Deadline: 29 February 2012, but applications will be considered as they are received

Compensation: \$1200 stipend

FIELD INTERN (1) needed for a Rusty Blackbird habitat occupancy study in Maine and Vermont from 14 May through 6 July 2012. The first seven weeks (14 May through 29 June) will be spent in the field, mostly in Maine; during the last week the intern will enter and check data at the Vermont Center for Ecostudies office in Norwich, VT. The Rusty Blackbird has experienced declines more severe than almost any other North American species, and this project investigates breeding habitat requirements for this vulnerable species. Intern will assist a technician with field surveys, including point count surveys, playback of Rusty Blackbird and predator calls, and measurement of habitat characteristics. Rusty Blackbirds breed in boreal forest wetlands and the intern and technician will spend long summer days driving and hiking between beautiful remote wetlands. A successful candidate will be comfortable in remote settings, undeterred by hungry blackflies, and physically fit. The team will drive around together and explore large areas in Maine and Vermont with no permanent housing, and the intern must be comfortable camping for the duration of the project and spending long hours in the field. Previous field experience and previous hiking/camping experience desired, as are familiarity using GPS and maps to navigate. Familiarity with Northeastern vegetation and boreal wetland birds a plus. Applicants must be flexible to changes in daily/weekly schedules due to weather, and applicants should have their own camping equipment and binoculars. A \$1200 stipend will be provided for the duration of the internship. Application deadline is 29 February 2012. To apply, email letter of interest, resumé, and contact information for three references to Judith Scarl (jscarl AT vtecostudies.org) AND mail a hard copy of these documents to Dr. Judith Scarl, Vermont Center for Ecostudies, PO Box 420, Norwich, VT 05055.