SF Bay Bird Observatory, Snowy Plover Project

Organization/Agency: San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory  Date: 4/15/13
Supervisor/Sponsor: Christina Donehower  Supervisor/Sponsor title: Science Programs Director
Address: 524 Valley Way, Milpitas, CA 95064  Email: cdonehower@sfbbo.org
Phone: 408-946-6548  Fax: 408-946-9279  Website: www.sfbbo.org

Describe the internship assignment:

The San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory is dedicated to the conservation of birds and their habitats through science and outreach. We are located in Milpitas, approximately 45-60 minutes from Santa Cruz.

We seek an intern to work with Science Programs Director Dr. Christina Donehower and staff biologists to evaluate habitat suitability for the federally threatened Western Snowy Plover, which is found within dry panne habitat in several locations in the San Francisco Bay Area. The intern would be responsible for field work to characterize and map potential plover nesting habitat at SFBBO’s study sites, which include many of the former salt ponds ringing the South Bay. The intern will work with Dr. Donehower to analyze data on plover habitat use in conjunction with mapped areas of potential habitat. This information will help to identify basic guidelines for determining habitat suitability and preferences. We are very interested in working with interns who wish to develop their research further as a senior thesis or Master’s thesis, though that is not required.