

Boyce Lab in search of Undergraduate Field Research Assistant for Ring-necked Pheasant Project (May - August 2026)

Description of Position: The Boyce Lab (<https://grad.biology.ualberta.ca/boyce/boyce-lab/>) is seeking one (1) summer field assistant to support a graduate research project at the University of Alberta for the summer of 2026. This project is examining how introduced ring-necked pheasants and hunting pressure related to release sites affect grassland bird communities and predator communities in southeastern Alberta. The successful applicant will gain field experience working with wildlife in Alberta's grasslands, and experience with breeding bird surveys, pheasant crow-count surveys, raptor point counts, game camera deployment, autonomic recording unit use, as well as data collection and management. There is an opportunity for an independent undergraduate project to accompany this position. This position is open to 2nd year undergraduate students and above from the University of Alberta and other institutions who are interested in wildlife biology, ecology or conservation.



Location: Based out of Brooks, AB from May 1st – July 1st, and Edmonton, AB from July 1st – August 31st

Job Requirements:

- Eagerness to learn, positive attitude, ability to work well with others.
- Ability to work long and sometimes unpredictable hours in remote areas with limited service.
- Willingness to stay in field accommodations in Brooks, Alberta, for the duration of the field season (beginning of May - end of June)
- Ability to carry up to 50 pounds (field equipment + personal items) over uneven, offroad terrain for varying distances to field sites.
- Priority given to applicants with a GPA > 3.3 and a requirement for successful applicants to apply for NSERC USRA and URI Undergraduate Researcher Stipend
- (<https://www.ualberta.ca/en/current-students/undergraduate-research-initiative/funding/usra.html>) or (<https://www.ualberta.ca/en/current-students/undergraduate-research-initiative/funding/researcher-stipend.html>)
- Grassland bird identification skills (visual and auditory) are beneficial but not required.
- Other assets include having taken introductory and higher-level ecology courses (i.e. intro to ecology, population ecology, landscape ecology, ornithology, etc.) or field courses.

Position Benefits: Gain field experience working with various wildlife surveying techniques in Alberta's Grasslands and Badlands! Get outdoors and have a unique summer research experience learning your birds and other vertebrates. Competitive wages, per diem and accommodations partially covered (dependent on funding).

Deadline: Apply by Monday, January 12th, 2026, to ensure applicants are able to apply before award deadline (February 2nd, 2026)

How to Apply: Send your resume and undergraduate transcripts (unofficial) to M.Sc. student Dani Nadeau (dnadeau1@ualberta.ca). Send your application as a single PDF file, labelled as Firstname.Lastname.