**Tracy Aviary Internship Opportunity**

***Conservation Science Intern***

**Position Description:**

Tracy Aviary’s Conservation Science Department contributes to the conservation of birds and their habitats through participative field research and outreach efforts that engage citizen scientists, managers, educators, and researchers in the stewardship of natural resources. In fall of 2016, Tracy Aviary is offering an internship opportunity that will provide valuable, on-the-ground experience in conservation science.

The Intern will assist in developing and implementing two exciting new initiatives at Tracy Aviary, Project Broadtail, and the Dark Skies Monitoring Project:

*Project Broadtail:* The Broad-tailed Hummingbird (*Salasphorus platycercus*) is a Neotropical migratory species that is common but declining in the state of Utah. Despite their state-wide ubiquity, Broad-tailed Hummingbirds are understudied in Utah, and little is known about their status, ecology, and current threats and impacts to their population. During 2016, we are implementing a new participatory citizen science monitoring study on Broad-tailed Hummingbird distribution and habitat association in Utah (with emphasis on the Salt Lake County area). With this project, we will recruit and train a diverse group of people to document Broad-tailed Hummingbirds around their home and in recreational areas. Data collected will provide valuable information on broadtails. Specifically, the information gathered will help us understand 1) distribution patterns, 2) habitat associations, 3) timing of migration arrival and departure.

*Dark Skies Monitoring Project:* Approximately two-thirds of all migratory bird species migrate at night, and more and more of these birds are wandering off course, missing seasonal migratory cues, and colliding with buildings as a direct result of light pollution. In order to better document light pollution in Salt Lake City, to better understand the birds that migrate overhead, and to increase public awareness of the impacts of light pollution to both human and wildlife health and wellbeing, Tracy Aviary is conducting Migration Moonwatches and Dark Sky Monitoring during the spring and fall avian migration periods. At these free events, members of the public will come together to hear a short informational session on the Utah Dark Skies initiative, and either 1) participate in nighttime counts of birds flying over the backdrop of a full moon, or 2) use a cellphone app to measure the nighttime light levels throughout the city.

During Aug- Dec 2016, the Intern will assist in recruiting and developing project events, help prepare educational materials, compile data, and communicate results via a report, informational flier, and/or presentation.

**Job Qualifications:** Background and/or demonstrated experience in biology or ecology. Knowledge and understanding of ornithology, and field techniques are desirable, but not required. Attentive to detail, feels comfortable working with volunteers / the public, and has people skills. Is also an optimist, life-long learner, inviting, good team player, and able to work independently.

**To Apply:** Send a cover letter describing experience and skills, a resume, and contact information for three references to Cooper Farr (cooperf@tracyaviary.org) by August 5, 2016.