

# Klamath Bird Observatory

## Outreach Volunteer Descriptions

Throughout the year, KBO hosts several outreach events, including field trips to the banding station, bird walks, educational presentations, and tabling events.

Mission: Klamath Bird Observatory achieves bird conservation in the Pacific Northwest and throughout the ranges of our migratory birds. Emphasizing high-caliber science and the role of birds as indicators, we inform and improve natural resource management. Recognizing that conservation occurs across many fronts, we also nurture an environmental ethic through community outreach and education. We owe our success to committed donors, volunteers, staff, and partners who demonstrate that each of us can contribute to a legacy of abundant bird populations and healthy land, air, and water.

### Tabling Event Volunteer Description:

KBO attends events throughout the valley and in Klamath County to reach a wider audience. At these events, we set up an informational booth with family-friendly activities. Volunteer responsibilities can include:

- Helping to set up and/or take down the booth.
- Helping to run the booth, which includes:
  - Answering questions regarding KBO's various research projects, the organization, and other outreach events.
  - Selling merchandise.
  - Answering questions regarding birds.
  - Help run the family-friendly activity (feather painting, mini bird walk, mist net activity, etc.)

Depending on the length of the event (2 hours – 6 hours), there may be shifts available. A typical shift is 2 hours. This is event and location-dependent. Clear tasks for each event will be discussed by the lead beforehand. If you wish not to do specific tasks, such as selling merchandise, please inform the lead about that event.

Essential things to review before each event:

- Create a list of upcoming KBO events. Discuss details with the lead. You can also find more information about the events on the KBO website under the newsletter tab.
  - <https://klamathbird.org/callnote/>
- Review KBO research projects:
  - <https://klamathbird.org/science/projects/>

- o <https://klamathbird.org/partnerships/kson/>

Volunteer qualifications for this role include:

- Customer service skills
- Public speaking
- Knowledge about bird natural history and eager to share
- A willingness to learn
- A dedication to KBO's mission

## **Bird Walk Volunteer Description:**

KBO's reach extends throughout the Rogue Valley. To help stay engaged with our supporters, KBO tries to host bird walks in a variety of locations. This could be on city parks like Medford's Bear Creek Park or Ashland's North Mountain Park, partner property like Southern Oregon Land Conservancy Land, in county parks, and they range from Cave Junction to Klamath Falls. We are looking for volunteers who could lead or assist in a bird walk.

Responsibilities of a bird walk lead include:

- Communications with the outreach coordinator, attendees, and assistants.
- Being able to identify the majority of birds seen.
- Coordinate materials pick up and drop off.
- Group management of the walk.
- Visit the bird walk location before the event to ensure accessibility and familiarize yourself with the landscape.
- Be able to talk with attendees about KBO.

Responsibilities of a bird walk assistant:

- During the bird walks, help manage materials, like handing out binoculars.
- Assist the lead with group management.
- Be able to talk with attendees about KBO.

Both of these positions require good people skills and an eagerness to learn and share about the natural world.

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If someone asks you a question that you are unsure of, please send them to the KBO website to find the answer. You can also ask the lead for clarification. If you wish to deepen your discussion of a specific topic, you can reach out to Elva at [ejm@klamathbird.org](mailto:ejm@klamathbird.org).

Training will be offered for new volunteers.

Notification and signup sheets will be sent out for each event at least a month in advance. If you need to cancel a shift, please notify the lead as soon as possible.

If you are interested in becoming a KBO Outreach Volunteer, you can reach out to Shannon at [shannonrio@aol.com](mailto:shannonrio@aol.com).