

Bob Sallinger Memorial Summer Fellowship

Honoring a Legacy of Bird, Wildlife, and Habitat Conservation

Fellowship Overview

The Bob Sallinger Memorial Summer Fellowship honors the life and work of one of Oregon's most dedicated and effective conservation advocates. This fellowship supports emerging conservationists between the ages of 18-25 who demonstrate Bob's passion for protecting birds, other wildlife and the habitats they depend on.

Bob Sallinger spent decades as a tireless voice for wildlife in Oregon, leading transformative conservation efforts, advocating for protection of birds, other wildlife, and their habitat, and working with diverse stakeholders to find common ground. His work combined scientific rigor, a collaborative spirit, and an unwavering commitment to being a voice for those who cannot speak for themselves.

Fellowship Details

Award Amount: \$8,000 stipend

Duration: 10-12 weeks (June - August 2026)

Location: Oregon-based work or projects

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must:

- Be between 18-25 years of age at the time of application
 - Demonstrate commitment to birds and other wildlife, and/or habitat conservation
 - Have a specific summer project or position identified (or work with host organization to develop one)
 - Be able to complete the fellowship work in Oregon or on conservation issues affecting Oregon ecosystems
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Eligible Project Types

Fellowship funds may support work in one or a combination of the following:

Field Research & Monitoring

- Bird population surveys and monitoring
- Wildlife tracking and habitat assessments
- Ecological restoration fieldwork
- Community science coordination, analysis, and/or reporting

Conservation Advocacy

- Policy research and analysis
- Legal advocacy
- Community organizing for habitat protection
- Environmental education and outreach
- Coalition building across stakeholder groups

Habitat Restoration

- Native plant restoration and invasive species removal
- Wildlife habitat creation and restoration in urban and/or rural areas
- Wetland or riparian restoration

Wildlife Rehabilitation & Care

- Work with wildlife rehabilitation centers
- Raptor monitoring and protection
- Threatened or endangered species support
- Wildlife conflict resolution

Application Requirements

Submit the following materials by February 22, 2026:

1. **Personal Statement** (maximum 1000 words)
 - Your passion for bird, wildlife, or habitat conservation
 - How Bob Sallinger's approach to conservation inspires your work
 - Your proposed summer project and its conservation impact
 - How this fellowship will advance your conservation career
2. **Project Proposal** (maximum 1000 words)
 - Detailed description of summer project
 - Timeline and specific activities
 - Expected conservation outcomes
 - Host organization or supervisor (if applicable)
3. **Resume or CV** (maximum 2 pages)
 - Relevant conservation experience, volunteer work, or coursework
 - Field skills, certifications, or specialized training
 - Participation in professional or conservation organizations
4. **Two Letters of Recommendation**
5. **Letter of Support from Host Organization** (if applicable)
 - Confirmation of summer position or project partnership
 - Description of mentorship and supervision provided

Selection Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on:

- **Conservation Impact:** Potential for project to achieve meaningful conservation outcomes for birds, wildlife, or habitats
- **Alignment with Bob's Legacy:** Demonstration of advocacy, collaborative spirit, scientific grounding, and commitment to being a voice for wildlife
- **Dedication and Passion:** Evidence of sustained commitment to conservation work
- **Feasibility:** Clear, achievable project plan with appropriate support
- **Growth Potential:** How fellowship will advance applicant's conservation career

About Bob Sallinger

Bob Sallinger dedicated his life to protecting Oregon's birds, other wildlife, and wild places. As conservation leader for decades, he led successful campaigns to protect birds, wildlife, and their habitat, advocated tirelessly for imperiled species, and brought together unlikely allies to achieve conservation victories.

This fellowship honors Bob's memory by investing in the next generation of conservation leaders who will carry forward his commitment to protecting Oregon's natural heritage.

Application Submission & Timeline

Application Deadline: Feb. 22, 2026 (11:59 PM PST)

Submit applications to: Dan Rohlf, BCO Board Chair, rohlf@lclark.edu

Selection Timeline:

- February 22: Application deadline
- Feb-March: Review by BCO board; reference checks
- March 31: Fellowship recipient announced
- June-August: Fellowship period

Questions?

Contact Dan Rohlf, Email: rohlf@lclark.edu

Phone: (503) 484-3943

Support the Fellowship

The Bob Sallinger Memorial Summer Fellowship is made possible through donations from individuals, foundations, and organizations dedicated to honoring Bob's legacy. To contribute to the fellowship fund or get more information about Bird Conservation Oregon, go to

birdconservation.org.