

PHEASANTS FOREVER AND QUAIL FOREVER

The Habitat Organization

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Coordinating Wildlife Biologist

Location: USDA Service Center - Bastrop, Louisiana



Application deadline: May 1st, 2019

Anticipated start date: June 3rd, 2019

This position will be located within the USDA Service Center located in Bastrop, Louisiana. The incumbent will work in a joint capacity with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and other partners to promote, coordinate and implement the conservation provisions of the Federal Farm Bill as well as other wildlife and forestry related conservation programs within their assigned area. As the Coordinating Wildlife Biologist, the incumbent will provide leadership and technical guidance in coordination and integration of grazing land management, forest management and wildlife biology in conservation planning and application. The incumbent will also be responsible to assist with technology development and transfer, training, and quality assurance to all Field Offices within their assigned area.

Specific activities will include program promotion (workshops and one on one meetings), contract coordination, conservation planning, conservation plan modification, site assessment and reporting. Provide technical biological assistance for wildlife habitat enhancement techniques to private landowners and public organizations. This position will be an employee of, and supervised by Pheasants Forever, Inc. & Quail Forever, with daily instruction and leadership provided by the local NRCS District Conservationist.

Qualifications

Minimum qualifications are a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in conservation, biology, forestry, agriculture or closely related field with three years of work experience in your field.

Desirable Knowledge, Skills & Abilities include:

- Ability to communicate clearly and effectively with landowners and partner agencies.
- Ability to work independently with little supervision and with diverse clientele.
- Knowledge of wildlife ecology, grassland, wetland, forest and early succession habitat management including the ability to utilize various habitat management tools in the development of management plans.
- Knowledge of conservation and wildlife habitat programs provided by federal (i.e. Farm Bill, US Fish and Wildlife Service), state, & local entities. In addition, knowledge of how these programs are implemented in an agricultural landscape is desired.
- Knowledge of or practical experience with agricultural systems and farming.
- Excellent verbal and written communication.
- Strong organizational skills.
- Proficiency with ArcGIS and/or USDA Toolkit.
- Valid driver's license required; some use of personal vehicle may be required (mileage reimbursement provided).
- Must be able to obtain USDA Federal Security Clearance.

Specific Duties and Expectations

The Coordinator will:

- Assists with development of new and improved training techniques, procedures, visual aids and tools. Provides on-the-job training for groups and individuals within the geographic area to include the following Parishes:

Morehouse, Union, Winn, Ouachita, East and West Carroll, Madison, Franklin, Tensas, Caldwell, Lincoln, Jackson and Richland within the state of Louisiana.

- Provides NRCS staff assistance in performance of quality assurance activities as directed by the NRCS District Conservationist(s) in accordance with the state and national guidelines.
- Provides direct technical assistance to clients in Phase I of the Conservation Planning Process relating to grazing land and associated wildlife as requested by Resource Team Leaders/District Conservationists.
- Keeps abreast of the latest research developments in resource management with emphasis on grazing operations and prepares applicable information for dissemination to Field Office staffs.
- Collaborates with conservation partners in the gathering and analyzing of data from field trials and research projects.
- Writes technical and timely feature articles dealing with various aspects of work on grazing lands and related wildlife biology topics for publication and dissemination to target audiences. Provides technical information to groups as requested.
- Develops and delivers grazing plans, wildlife plans, and Forestry Management Plans. All work is independently completed as described in the NPPH and approved by NRCS.
- Obtains any necessary Ecological Science Job Approval Authority and/or Conservation Planner certification designation role, as determined by the NRCS District Conservationist(s) in consultation with South Region Manager of Quail Forever/Pheasants Forever.
- Provides practice implementation technical assistance to the Field Offices for financial assistance/easement, and technical assistance programs. Activities would include: conservation practice design, layout and develop documentation check out/certification of non-engineering conservation practices. Each specific work item will be approved by NRCS.
- Conducts Conservation Plan and Financial Assistance Program contract status reviews to determine success of conservation practice, discusses “operations and maintenance” needs with clients, assesses and records client decisions/discussions, and documents contract status.
- Conducts Mid Contract Management Reviews on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) plans, in order to assist local NRCS Field Offices with mid-year contract review workload. Job sheets and planning worksheets shall be completed and approved by NRCS.
- Will lead, develop and /or provide conservation technical assistance at producer workshops and field days in collaboration with other conservation partners, included but not limited to LDAF, SWCDs, Local QF Chapters, and other in-state partners.
- Conduct in-person workshops to educate and provide conservation information to producers located in identified area of service. Meetings may be targeted to specific agricultural producer groups (such as livestock producers, organic agricultural producers, etc.). The purpose of the workshops would be to inform producers of conservation opportunities and provide information on how to seek for NRCS technical and financial assistance.

Salary – Commensurate with Experience + health benefits

To Apply: Visit our website at www.pheasantsforever.org/jobs

ONLY ONLINE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED. Please combine your cover letter, resume and 3 references into a single Word document or PDF file on the Recruitment website. Additional questions may be directed to Chris McLeland-South Region Director at cmcleland@pheasantsforever.org

Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever is an EEO Employer/Vet/Disabled