**US Department of Agriculture**

**Forest Service**

Southern Research Station

**Position Outreach Notice**

### Research Wildlife Biologist (GS-0486-12)/Research Ecologist (GS-0408-12)

**Upland Hardwood Ecology and Management Research Work Unit**

**Clemson, SC**

**Respond by January 30, 2023**

The Upland Hardwood Ecology and Management Research Unit (SRS-4157) plans to advertise a position for a permanent, full-time Research Wildlife Biologist/Research Ecologist. The position will be filled at the GS-12 position ($82,830-$107,680 plus standard federal benefits). The Unit’s mission is to advance knowledge and transfer technology and applications to foster resilient and adaptive ecosystems in the upland hardwood region of the southeastern and south-central United States. The Unit operates as a part of the SRS’s Center for Forest Restoration and Management. More information about the Unit’s research, cooperators, and personnel can be found at <https://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/uplandhardwood/>.

**Primary Duties**

The scientist will develop studies consistent with the mission of the Unit across the southern United States, with particular emphasis on wildlife within the southern portion of the Central Hardwood Region. This includes research on wildlife associated with hardwood, hardwood-pine, pine-hardwood, and spruce-fir forests. The scientist will work with other researchers in the Unit and the rest of the Southern Research Station, National Forest System, and collaborators in the academic community, state and federal agencies, tribes, forest industry, and non-governmental organizations to develop appropriate research initiatives for new work in these ecosystems.

The goals of the scientist’s research are to understand wildlife population and demographic responses to natural and anthropogenic processes; synthesize research from multiple disciplines to model the effects of natural and anthropogenic disturbances including forest management activities, endemic and emerging diseases, non-native invasive species, climate change, and landscape configurations (e.g., connectivity) on animal populations of concern; and develop decision-support tools for managers and policy makers. More specifically, the scientist will design field studies and use existing datasets to develop population demographic models for wildlife species of conservation and management concern in the upland hardwood region and other ecosystems to assist managers in designing management and conservation/recovery strategies and assist policy makers by providing the best available science regarding population trends and threats. The scientist will develop a collaborative research program that addresses the needs of managers as well as addresses basic questions regarding wildlife demography, population ecology, and evolution. Applicants should have experience with state-of-the-art tools such as population and genetic models, GIS, remote sensing, analytical statistics, and spatial statistics to achieve these objectives as well as have knowledge and understanding of forest and wildlife ecology, silvicultural and forest management practices, and other disturbances such as climate change and disease ecology.

TYPE OF APPOINTMENT: Permanent full-time position

DUTY STATION: Clemson, SC

TELEWORK ELIGIBILITY: Possible

WORK SCHEDULE: Full-time 40 hours per week

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS: Those who are interested must meet the qualification requirements for the 0486 or 0408 series for scientist positions. The OPM Qualification Standards Handbook Manual is available at https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/classification-qualifications/general-schedule-qualification-standards/. **Current U.S. Citizenship is required for employment in this position with the USDA Forest Service.**

**Clemson, SC – Community Information**

Clemson is located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains and is home to Clemson University. The incumbent will be located in the Department of Forestry and Environmental Conservation (<https://www.clemson.edu/cafls/forestry-environmental-conservation/index.html>) and will be able to apply for Adjunct status within the department.

Although Clemson is a relatively small city (19,000 people), Greenville, SC, Asheville, NC, Charlotte, NC, and Atlanta, GA are 45 minutes to 2.5 hours away for access to airports and cultural activities. Outdoor recreational opportunities abound as the town and university are surrounded by the Clemson Experimental Forest, and the Sumter National Forest, Chattahoochee National Forest, Nantahala National Forest, and Great Smoky Mountains National Park, several lakes, and the Chattooga River, a wild and scenic river, are within 1-3 hours drives. The area has four distinct seasons with high temperatures in the summer averaging in the upper 80s (average daily summer temperatures in upper 70’s) and winter temperatures averaging in the 40s. Rainfall for the city is ~50 inches per year.

Major employers in the area include Clemson University, several health care facilities, Duke Energy, and Michelin North America. Many corporations and other employment opportunities are available in Greenville. Other USDA Forest Service offices in the area include the Andrew Pickens Ranger District of the Sumter National Forest in Mountain Rest, SC. Typical home prices in Clemson are approximately $370,000. There are several elementary schools in Clemson along with one middle school and one high school.

**How to be Considered**

The purpose of this outreach notification is to determine the potential applicant pool that may be interested in the position. Current Forest Service employees are encouraged to respond. If you wish, please include a brief narrative, or resume, describing your experience and/or qualifications for the position. Those interested will be sent a copy of the announcement with duties, qualifications required, and application instructions. Please respond by January 30, 2023.

Please complete the attached Outreach Response Form and submit to [Susan.Loeb@usda.gov](mailto:Susan.Loeb@usda.gov) or respond online at https://fsoutreach.gdcii.com/.

\* \* \*

**Non-Discrimination Statement**

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

**Outreach Response Form**

**Research Wildlife Biologist GS-486-12/Research Ecologist, GS-408-12**

***Duty Station: Clemson, SC***

If you are interested in the position, complete this form and send it via email, by **January 30, 2023**  to [Susan.Loeb@usda.gov](mailto:Susan.Loeb@usda.gov) or submit your responses at https://fsoutreach.gdcii.com/. If do not have access to e-mail or the internet, please complete this form and mail to: Dr. Susan Loeb, Project Leader, USDA Forest Service, 233 Lehotsky Hall, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634.

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYMENT**

Are you currently a Federal Employee? ⃝ Yes ⃝ No

If Yes:

Name of your Agency & Location: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Current title/series/ grade: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Type of Appointment: ⃝ Permanent ⃝ Term ⃝ Temporary

If No:

Current Employer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Current Position

Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Type of Appointment: ⃝ Permanent ⃝ Term ⃝ Temporary

If you are not a current permanent federal (career or career conditional) employee, please indicate below if you are eligible for other appointments under any of the following special authorities:

□ Former Peace Corps/Vista Volunteer □ Veteran's Employment Opp. Act of 1998

□ Person with Disabilities □ Veteran's Readjustment Act

□ Student Employment Program □ Reinstatement Eligibility

□ Veteran with 30% Compensable Disability □ Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for your interest!**