



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Wildlife Services

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: Recruiting Wildlife Specialist, North Carolina.

DATE: August 13, 2014

The North Carolina Wildlife Services program is recruiting a Wildlife Specialist (Biological Science Technician) for work on federal, state, and cooperatively funded projects. Duty Station will be Brunswick or New Hanover County, NC. The position is a full-time term, GS-0404-4/5/6 not to exceed 13 months of employment. Relocation costs for this position will not be paid. Starting dates are negotiable but prefer incumbent starts no later than October 5, 2014.

The primary duty assignment will be alleviating beaver damage problems in Brunswick County and New Hanover County.

The employee will work closely and in coordination with the NC Department of Transportation, the USDA Soil Conservation Service, the Brunswick and New Hanover County Soil & Water Districts, the City of Wilmington, private timber companies, and private landowners in investigating and assessing beaver damage problems, then providing technical assistance and direct control upon request.

QUALIFICATIONS:

FOR THE GS-4 GRADE LEVEL:

Applicants must have 6 months of experience (equivalent to the GS-03 level) that may have been obtained in the private or public (local, county, state, Federal) sectors that demonstrate:

The use of wildlife damage control techniques, to include traps, snares, and firearms to alleviate damage caused by wildlife species and aquatic rodents in particular;

The ability to prepare reports regarding activities, observations, events, and other relevant data collected;

Training in control methods, procedures, technical aspects, and objectives used for wildlife damage control;

The ability to assess areas ecologically, economically, and environmentally impacted by beaver, nutria, and muskrat populations;

The ability to effectively communicate with individuals or groups;

The ability to recognize habits, characteristics, and habitats occupied by various wildlife species;

OR

Successful completion of 2 years of study that included at least 12 semester hours in any combination of courses such as scientific or technical courses such as biology, zoology, mammology, chemistry, statistics, entomology, herpetology, botany, physics, agriculture, or mathematics with at least 6 semester hours in wildlife.

FOR THE GS-5 GRADE LEVEL:

Applicants must have one year of specialized experience (equivalent to the GS-04 level) that may have been obtained in the private or public (local, county, state, Federal) sectors that demonstrate:

The use of wildlife damage control techniques to include traps, snares, and firearms to alleviate damage caused by wildlife species and aquatic rodents in particular;

The ability to prepare reports regarding activities, observations, events, and other relevant data collected;

Training on the control methods, procedures, technical aspects, and objectives used for wildlife damage control;

The ability to inspect and assess areas ecologically, economically, and environmentally impacted by beaver, nutria, and muskrats;

The ability to effectively communicate with individuals or groups;

The ability to recognize habits, characteristics, and habitats occupied by various wildlife species;

OR

Successful completion of a full 4-year course of study leading to a bachelor's degree with major study, or at least 24 semester hours, in any combination of scientific or technical courses such as biology, zoology, mammology, chemistry, statistics, entomology, herpetology, botany, physics, agriculture, or mathematics, with at least 6 semester hours in wildlife.

FOR THE GS-6 GRADE LEVEL:

Applicants must have one year of specialized experience (equivalent to the GS-05 level) that may have been obtained in the private or public (local, county, state, Federal) sectors which demonstrates:

Technical experience with trapping in urban, suburban and rural environments with emphasis on beaver, nutria, and muskrats.

Experience with a variety of both lethal and non-lethal wildlife damage control techniques;

Experience developing and maintaining working relationships with various interest groups, including but not limited to farmers, timber companies, private land owners, municipalities, airports, state and federal agencies;

Experience collecting scientific data and utilizing various computer software programs to manage, analyze and present the data that would include; word processing, spreadsheets, databases, presentation and GIS software.

OR

The completion of six full months of graduate education that included at least 9 semester hours with an emphasis in Wildlife;

OR

COMBINATION OF EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE AT THE GS-4/5/6 GRADE LEVEL:

Applicants may have combinations of successfully completed education and specialized experience to meet total qualification requirements. The total percentages must equal at least 100 percent to qualify for that grade level.

TRANSCRIPTS are required if:

- a) You are qualifying for the position based on education;
- b) You are qualifying for this position based on a combination of experience and education.

This education must have been successfully completed and obtained from an accredited school, college, or university.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

Ability to identify beaver, nutria, and muskrat habitat by natural appearance and sign, as well as identify the effect of those populations on the original environment and stream profiles;

Knowledge of the life history, behavior, and habitat requirements of aquatic mammals both native to North Carolina and re-introduced or invasive;

Knowledge of the economic, environmental, and ecological impacts of re-introduced or invasive wildlife species; Knowledge of the resulting potential damage to property and agricultural resources and threats to human health and safety;

Ability to independently identify aquatic rodent damage problems; followed by the selection and implementation of the most effective means of damage management.

Knowledge of commonly used wildlife damage management techniques, methods, equipment, and materials required for effective use of damage control management

Must have a safe driving record and no violations regarding the use of off-road vehicles, watercraft, firearms, control devices, and other equipment.

Must have a valid State Motor Vehicle Operator's or Commercial License, as appropriate. Operation of Government-owned or leased vehicles is required.

Knowledge of, and the ability to interpret, applicable Federal, state, and local regulations, laws and ordinances necessary to carry out duties in a safe and legal manner. Knowledge of National and NC WS Program policy, Federal employee conduct, ethics, and equal opportunity requirements.

Must have the ability to work and deal effectively with people, including coworkers and cooperators, under varying conditions. Ability to communicate, both orally and in writing, to coordinate and promote program activities with interested/affected groups and organizations and prepare required program reports.

Must have the ability to use computers, GPS units, and associated software to effectively communicate through e-mail and official correspondence, record data in web based systems, and conduct basic analyses using spreadsheets and databases.

Conditions of Employment:

- Must be a U.S. Citizen
- Must be 18 years old
- If you are a male born after December 31, 1959, and are at least 18 years of age, civil service employment law (5 U.S.C. 3328) requires that you must be registered with the Selective Service System, unless you meet certain exemptions (proof of registration and/or exemption required)
Website: <http://www.sss.gov>
- DD-214 (Member 4 copy) and/or VA letter required for applicable Veteran preference

APPLICANTS FOR THIS POSITION WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT TO URINALYSIS TO SCREEN FOR ILLEGAL DRUG USE PRIOR TO APPOINTMENT. APPOINTMENT TO THE POSITION WILL BE CONTINGENT UPON A NEGATIVE DRUG TEST RESULT. AS DIRECTED, INCUMBENTS OF THIS POSITION WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT TO URINALYSIS TO SCREEN FOR ILLEGAL DRUG USE ON AN ONGOING BASIS AFTER APPOINTMENT.

CARRYING A FIREARM IS A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT. IN THE PASSING OF THE LAUTENBERG AMENDMENT, CONGRESS PASSED LEGISLATION WHICH PROHIBITS ANYONE WHO HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF A MISDEMEANOR CRIME OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FROM POSSESSING A FIREARM OR AMMUNITION. IF SELECTED, YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO SIGN THE FORM "INQUIRY FOR POSITIONS REQUIRING POSSESSION OF FIREARMS" CERTIFYING YOU MEET THESE CRITERIA.

APHIS is an emergency response agency. This means that all Agency employees may be asked or assigned to participate in rotating temporary duty assignments to support emergency programs at some time during their career with APHIS. It is difficult to predict the frequency with which such emergency situations may occur and could range from several emergencies in a year to none over the course of many years. In the event you are called upon to support an emergency program, this may require irregular working hours including overtime and may include duties other than those specified in your official position description. While some emergency program support assignments may be able to be performed at the employee's current duty station, in other cases employees may be asked to go on-site to a temporary duty station location. In addition, it may be necessary for employees to participate in multiple rotations to an emergency program assignment. Attempts will be made to keep disruption to the employees to a minimum.

Interested individuals should send a resume, transcripts, DD-214 (Member 4 copy) and/or VA letter required for applicable Veteran preference, OF-306 Application (See website http://www.opm.gov/forms/pdf_fill/of0306.pdf), and contact information for three references.

Application materials should be submitted to:

Butch Adams
District Supervisor
233 Borderbelt Drive
Whiteville, NC 28472
910-409-4067
gerald.m.adams@aphis.usda.gov

Deadline to receive application materials is September 5, 2014. Interviews will be scheduled shortly thereafter. If you have any questions, please call Butch Adams at 910-409-4067.