

**UNITED STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**Animal Plant Health Inspection Service**  
**Wildlife Services**  
(An Equal Opportunity Employer)  
**Job Announcement**

**POSITION TITLE, SERIES, GRADE:** Biological Science Technician (Wildlife), full-time seasonal, GS-0404-4/5

\*GS Locality Pay Tables can be accessed at:

<https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/2016/general-schedule/>

**PROMOTION POTENTIAL:** GS- 5

**CLOSES:** January 6, 2017, 5:00 pm central

**LOCATION OF POSITION:** Rhinelander, WI [No relocation costs will be paid]

This position will be GS-0404-4/5, Excepted Service Temporary Appointment.

**This positions has a seasonal tour of duty, beginning approximately April 2nd and ending approximately October 29<sup>th</sup>.** *Positions will accrue sick and annual leave. No benefits will be offered for this position, with the exception that the employee may qualify for health care benefits contingent upon number of hours worked annually.*

**REQUIREMENTS:**

- Must be a U.S. Citizen.
- Must be 18 years of 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: <https://sss.gov>
- DD214 (Member 4 copy)/veterans' documents for veterans' preference
- Valid state driver's license required at time of hire.
- DD-214 (Member 4 copy) and/or VA letter required for applicable veteran preference
- The OF-306 form may be obtained from address listed, or downloaded from: <https://www.opm.gov/forms/Optional-forms/>

**HOW TO APPLY:**

If you are currently a Federal employee, include a copy of the most recent performance appraisal or a statement that the rating is at least Fully Successful and the date of the rating. Additional materials not listed above (i.e. position descriptions, training certificates, etc.) may not be considered. Applicants who do not submit the required items may not be considered.

Interested individuals must submit a detailed resume (or OF-612), completed and signed OF-306, and college transcripts (if applicable) to:

**Robert Willging, District Supervisor**  
**USDA, APHIS, Wildlife Services**  
**P.O. Box 1064**  
**Rhineland, WI 54501**  
**(715) 369-5221 extension 11**  
**Email: [Robert.C.Willging@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Robert.C.Willging@aphis.usda.gov)**

Deadline to receive application materials is **5:00 pm central, Friday, January 6, 2017**. Interviews may be scheduled shortly thereafter.

**DUTIES:** These positions are located in the Wildlife Services in northern Wisconsin. Primary responsibilities include providing wildlife damage mitigation services pursuant to cooperative agreements under the direction of the Rhineland District Supervisor. Duties will include providing technical assistance and operational services in wildlife damage management for a variety of projects administered by WS, including providing services to address black bear nuisance and damage complaints, wolf depredation management, providing agricultural damage abatement and assisting with crop damage appraisals, and assisting with the Cooperative Beaver Damage Management Program. Administrative duties may include computer data entry, equipment and supplies distribution, inventory, grounds maintenance, required training, and keeping a log of activities. This work will involve the use of a wide variety of tools, equipment and devices, including wildlife traps, firearms, fencing, GPS units, nets, hand tools, ATV's, 4x4 vehicles, trailers, and related equipment utilized in wildlife damage management for mammalian and avian wildlife species. Most work projects involve effective communication with the general public and cooperating agency personnel.

Use and safe handling of firearms may be required and the successful applicant must be in compliance with the 1996 Lautenberg Amendment of the Gun Control Act of 1968. All applicants will be subject to a background check and an agency-sponsored random drug testing program.

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

The incumbent will be required to work in office and field setting environments. Field environment may include farms, agricultural fields, as well as undeveloped wildlands. Occasional travel is required. The incumbent is expected to conduct duties in a safe and orderly manner, so as not to endanger self, fellow workers, or property. The position requires excellent physical condition as heavy lifting and walking is required in steep and rough terrain. Adverse weather conditions such as heat, cold, rain, and high insect populations will be encountered.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** To qualify, you **MUST** meet all qualification requirements by the closing date of the announcement.

**QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AT THE GS-4 GRADE LEVEL:**

Applicants must have 6 months of general experience equivalent in level of difficulty and responsibility to GS-3. This experience is typically in, or related to, the work of the position being filled and 6 months of specialized experience that demonstrates:

- Extensive knowledge of wildlife damage management techniques and methods including, but not limited to foot-hold, body-grip, live traps and cable restraint devices.
- The ability to recognize and accurately identify damage caused by various wildlife species and selects appropriate species-selective management actions.
- Knowledge of wildlife damage management techniques and methods including, but not limited to foot-hold, body-grip and live traps and cable restraint devices.
- The ability to participate in the negotiations of agreements with program cooperators.

OR

**EDUCATION SUBSTITUTION AT THE GS-4 GRADE LEVEL:**

Successful completion of 2 years of study above high school that included at least 12 semester hours in any combination of courses such as biology, chemistry, statistics, entomology, animal husbandry, botany, physics, agriculture, or mathematics.. At least 6 semester hours of courses must be directly related to wildlife.

**Transcripts required if qualifying based on this provision.**

OR

**QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AT THE GS-5 GRADE LEVEL:**

Applicants must have 1 year of specialized experience equivalent in level of difficulty and responsibility to GS-4. This experience is typically in, or related to, the work of the position being filled and demonstrates:

- The ability to serve as an instructor and conduct training for cooperators or other interested groups on WS control methods, procedures, and program objectives.

- Experience maintaining contacts and developing working relationships with various parties, including but not limited to agriculture producers, businesses, land owners, county and state agencies, other federal agencies, and presenting plans of action and results to groups.
- Experience in obtaining permission from private landowners and public property administrators to allow WS to conduct operational activities on private and public properties.
- Technical experience trapping various species in a variety of environments, and familiarity using various traps to capture animals with little or no direction or supervision. Experience surveying areas to determine species and the likely methods of management to reduce loss.

OR

**EDUCATION SUBSTITUTION AT THE GS-5 GRADE LEVEL:**

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 courses such as those shown above for GS-4. At least 6 semester hours of courses must have been directly related to wildlife. **Transcripts required if qualifying based on this provision.**

OR

**COMBINATION OF EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE AT THE GS-4/5 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 required if qualifying based on this provision.**

For more information on OPM Qualifications, visit:

[OPM Qualification Standards](#) or <http://www.opm.gov/qualifications/>

***Candidates will be considered without discrimination for any non-merit reasons such as race, religion, sex, national origin, marital status, politics, disability, age, or membership or non-membership in an employee organization.***

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.