

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

POSITION TITLE, SERIES, GRADE:

Biological Science Technician (Wildlife), AD-0404-3/4

PROMOTION POTENTIAL: AD-4

LOCATION OF POSITION(S):

Bamberg County – 1 position;
Dorchester County, South Carolina – 1 position;
Hampton County, South Carolina – 1 position;
Williamsburg County, South Carolina – 1 position;
Colleton/Jasper Counties, South Carolina – 1 position;

(Relocation costs will not be paid; specify which position(s) you are applying for)

CLOSING DATE: June 09, 2017

The position will be an AD-0404-3/4, 13-month term appointment. Work schedule will be seasonal. Starting dates are negotiable but prefer to start as soon as possible.

- 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. Current active duty members must submit a certification that they are expected to be discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions not later than 120 days after the date the certification is submitted.
- The OF-306 form may be obtained from address listed, or downloaded from <http://www.opm.gov/forms/html/of.asp>

HOW TO APPLY:

Applicants who do not submit the required items may not be considered. If you are a currently employed 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 should send a resume, DD-214 or VA letters (if applicable), an OF-306, transcripts (if applying based on education requirements listed below), and answer the **Supplemental Experience** questions listed at the bottom of this announcement to:

CONTACT OFFICE: USDA APHIS Wildlife Services
400 Northeast Drive, Suite L
Columbia, SC 29203
Attn: Robert Byrd, District Supervisor
(803) 786-9455
robert.w.byrd@aphis.usda.gov

Applicants who do not submit the required items may not be considered. Applications with all supporting documents must be submitted to the contact office and must be **POSTMARKED** by the **CLOSING DATE** of this announcement.

NOTE: 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. INCUMBENTS OF THIS POSITION WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT TO URINALYSIS TO SCREEN FOR ILLEGAL DRUG USE ON AN ONGOING BASIS AFTER APPOINTMENT, AS DIRECTED.

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 that you meet this criteria.

DUTIES

This position is located in the Wildlife Services (WS) Program, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The assignment involves the performance of a wide range of duties related to management of wildlife damage, but primary duties will be alleviating beaver problems in assigned counties.

Serves as a member of the WS workforce engaged in animal damage control operations.

Incumbent will be required to be familiar with and know how to use various devices, chemicals, tools, firearms and related equipment utilized in animal and bird damage control operations.

Prepares baits and constructs or sets devices, lures, traps, etc., in accordance with standard operational procedures.

Responsible for, and may instruct others in, the maintenance, repair and safekeeping of tools, supplies and equipment issued. When using M-44 or other toxic materials, must

maintain records pursuant to the State Pesticide statutes and regulations and Environmental Protection Agency use restrictions.

Must be able to identify predator or rodent species by sight, sound, tracks, type of depredation or damage present, examine other appropriate evidence and correctly identify such damage situations and relate them to the depredating species.

Coordinates animal control efforts with the cooperators and cooperator's contractors, particularly in relation to public use. Incumbent provides routine reports on wildlife damage control related problems.

Records observations, sightings, activities, or other events daily and reports these to the supervisor.

Must conduct all operations using approved safety procedures and in accordance with local, State and Federal laws and regulations, and USDA, APHIS, and WS policies.

Applicants can qualify by meeting the experience or education requirements specified below:

GENERAL EXPERIENCE AT THE AD-3 GRADE LEVEL:

Applicants must have 6 months of work experience that demonstrates the applicant's ability to perform the work of the position or experience that provided a familiarity with the subject matter or processes of the broad subject area of the occupation.

SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE AT THE AD-4 GRADE LEVEL:

Applicant must have 6 months of general experience and 6 months of specialized experience to perform the work of the position.

Examples of qualifying experience include, but are not limited to:

- Experience using damage control techniques (including, but not limited to) predator, rodent and bird control toxicants, techniques, traps, snares and formulating scents and baits;
- Prepare reports regarding activities, observations, events, and other relevant data collected;
- Train on the control methods, procedures, technical aspects, and objectives used for wildlife damage control;
- Inspect and survey areas with the ability to recognize various wildlife;
- Meeting and communicating with individuals or groups; and
- Recognize habits, characteristics, and habitats occupied by a variety of avian and mammalian wildlife species.

OR

EDUCATION SUBSTITUTION AT THE AD-3 GRADE LEVEL:

Successful completion of 1 year of study that included at least 6 semester hours in any combination of scientific or technical courses such as biology, chemistry, statistics, entomology, animal husbandry, botany, physics, agriculture, or mathematics.

EDUCATION SUBSTITUTION AT THE AD-4 GRADE LEVEL:

Successful completion of 2 years of study 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 the position to be filled.

OR

COMBINATION OF EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE AT THE AD-3/4 GRADE LEVEL:

Equivalent combinations of successful completed education and experience may be used to meet the total qualification requirements. The total percentage must equal at least 100 percent to qualify.

TRANSCRIPTS are required if:

- You are qualifying for the position based on education.
- 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.

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 to non- membership in an employee organization.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

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 careers 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 that 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 employee to a minimum.

SUPPLEMENTAL EXPERIENCE

The following questions are to be answered on a separate sheet of paper. Keep responses to no more than 1-page per question. Failure to answer the questions will exclude you from consideration.

1. **ABILITY TO EFFECTIVELY WORK WITH CO-WORKERS AND THOSE OUTSIDE OF THE ORGANIZATION:** Describe your experience in dealing with

others. Have you had to negotiate issues or handle controversial matters?
Describe.

2. **ABILITY TO WORK WITH E-MAIL, MICROSOFT WORD, AND MICROSOFT EXCEL:** What experience do you have using computers? What experience do you have with e-mail, Microsoft Word and Excel databases?

NOTE: False statements on any part of the applications or accompanying forms or sheets may be cause for disqualification or later removal from the position.