



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPEN DATE: 05-29-2017

CLOSING DATE: 06-05-2017

POSITION TITLE: Biological Science Technician (Wildlife)

TYPE OF POSITION: Term Appointment with possibility for Benefits, Excepted Service
Not to Exceed 13 months

WORK SCHEDULE: Monday-Friday, Intermittent

ANNOUNCEMENT #:

SERIES/GRADE: GS-404-5

FULL PERFORMANCE LEVEL: GS-404-5

LOCATION: 5 positions will be filled. One position in each of the following counties:
Henry, St. Clair, Benton, Dade and Reynolds.
(Relocation expenses will not be paid)

SALARY: \$32,844 per year

WHO MAY APPLY:

- 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>.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

Resume

Transcripts (if qualifying on education)

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.

OF-306. The OF-306 form may be obtained from Contact Office or downloaded from <http://www.opm.gov/forms/html/of.asp>.

HOW TO APPLY: Additional materials not listed above (i.e. position descriptions, training certificates, etc.) may not be considered. Applicants who do not submit the required items listed above may not be

considered. Applications with all supporting documents must be submitted to the contact office and must be **RECEIVED** by the **CLOSING DATE** of this announcement.

Interested individuals should send a resume, OF-306 form, transcripts, veteran documentation (if applicable) to the address listed here:

CONTACT OFFICE:

USDA APHIS Wildlife Services
1714 Commerce Ct. Suite C
Columbia, MO 65202
Parker Hall, State Director
573-449-3033 x15
Dan McMurtry, District Supervisor
573-449-3033x13

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you should need the forms identified in above paragraph, feel free to contact 573-449-3033 for a copy.

DUTIES:

The incumbent will be involved with several aspects of the feral swine program. Ability to work independently is essential. Duties will include making landowner contacts, baiting, installing traps and following up all aspects of this project. Tasks will be assigned on a weekly basis and the individual must demonstrate ability to complete tasks efficiently and with very little oversight.

- 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.
- Must be able to correctly identify current, and forecast future, damage problems and relate them to the depredate species and determine/select the most effective means of control.
- Must be highly skilled in the use of various WS control methods and procedures including the use of firearms. Means of control utilized may include the use of snares, traps, M-44 (cyanide) devices, calling, shooting or den hunting.
- Must be able to discuss Endangered Species concepts, and be familiar with the ranges of the various threatened and endangered species that might come in conflict with any phase of WS programs.
- 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 restriction.
- 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 depredate species.

- Incumbent may be required to serve as instructor and conduct demonstrations and training for cooperators or other interested groups on WS control methods, procedures, and program objectives. This may include preliminary instruction and training of new personnel or WS equipment, devices, chemicals, firearms, etc., reporting procedures, field responsibilities and other technical aspects of the program.
- Prepares and submits routine and special reports regarding daily, weekly or monthly activities, observations, events and other relevant data collected.
- May participate in aerial hunting of predators as a gunner or ground crew member in areas where it is authorized by State law.
- May be required to pass Certified Applicator examination, as required of persons who use restricted-use pesticides.
- Must demonstrate a respect for safety in all operations, including the operation of motor vehicles, firearms, control devices, and equipment.
- Must have a valid State Motor Vehicle Operator's or Commercial License, as appropriate. Operation of Government-owned or leased vehicles is required.

MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

To qualify, applicants **MUST** meet all minimum qualification requirements, except Medical Requirements, by the closing date of the announcement.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:

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

Specialized experience at the GS-5 Grade Level:

Applicants must have 1 year of specialized experience equivalent in level of difficulty and responsibility to the next lower level (GS-4) in the Federal service. This experience may have been obtained in the private or public (local, county, state, Federal) sectors.

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

- Experience in using damage control techniques, including, but not limited to, feral swine control, aquatic rodent control techniques utilizing traps and snares and migratory bird damage management techniques, including but not limited to, pyrotechnics, scare devices, and other various techniques as required.
- Experience in the control methods, procedures, technical aspects, and objectives used for wildlife damage management.
- Experience in inspecting and surveying areas with the ability to recognize various wildlife species.
- Experience in communicating with individuals or groups about wildlife issues.

OR

Education substitution at the GS-5 Level:

GS-5: A full four-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 biology, chemistry, statistics, entomology, animal husbandry, botany, physics, agriculture, or mathematics. At least 6 semester hours of courses must have been in wildlife.

COMBINATION OF EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE AT THE GS-05 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. To learn more about combining education and experience for this series, click the following:

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.

Special Conditions:

- As a condition of employment, satisfactory completion and favorable adjudication of a background investigation and/or fingerprint check may be required for this position.
- Selectee must qualify in the use of firearms after appointment and may be required to carry and use firearms in the performance of the duties of this position.
- Employees required to carry and use firearms in the performance of their duties must pass a pre-employment drug screening and will be subject to random screening thereafter.
- To fulfill field or laboratory requirements in this position, proof of specific vaccinations, including boosters may be required as a condition of employment.
- Work is performed in both office and field locations; safety precautions are necessary and protective clothing/equipment are required.
- There is regular and recurring exposure to moderate risk and discomfort, such as adverse weather conditions and noisy environments.
- Work requires physical exertion, such as walking over rough or uneven surfaces, lifting heavy objects up to and over 50 pounds, bending, pulling, crouching, stooping, climbing, and stretching; must be comfortable or able to work at heights greater than 50 feet above ground level.
- Physical ability and dexterity are required.
- Ability and willingness to travel is required.

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.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS: (if applicable to your position)

- Must obtain or have a valid Missouri driver’s license. Operation of Government-owned or leased vehicles is required. (if this applies)
- As a condition of employment, appropriate security clearance is required for this position.
- Position is subject to random and applicant drug testing.
- Must have a knowledge of and be capable of using:
 - Working with the public and other cooperating agencies
 - Communication skills
 - Electronic equipment (GPS, Trimble, computer)
- Must demonstrate a respect for safety in all operations, including the operation of motor vehicles, firearms, control devices, and equipment.

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 state 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.

Failure to follow application instructions regarding filing appropriate forms and answering questions may result in loss of employment considerations for this position. **All applications must be signed, dated, and received 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.

All candidates will be considered without regarding to race, creed, color, sex, age, national origin, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor.

Relocation costs will not be paid for this position.