



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Wildlife Services

EAD, PSC Box 8006
Bldg. 4223 Access Rd
MCAS Cherry Point
NC, 28533-0006

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: Recruiting Wildlife Specialist, North Carolina

DATE: 1/27/15

The North Carolina Wildlife Services program is recruiting a Wildlife Specialist (Biological Science Technician) for work on a cooperatively funded project. The assignment involves the performance of a wide range of duties related to management of wildlife damage, but primary duties will be alleviating wildlife threats to aviation at MCAS Cherry Point, Havelock, NC. The position is a full-time temporary, GS-0404-3/4/5, not to exceed 7 months of employment (with the option to extend based on funding and performance). Relocation costs for this position will not be paid. Starting dates are negotiable but prefer incumbent starts by March 8, 2015.

The assignment involves working closely with air station tenants and state, county, and federal officials in developing and conducting wildlife damage management activities. The Bird/wildlife Aircraft Strike Hazard (BASH) program uses an integrated approach of lethal and non-lethal techniques to reduce threats to aviation safety. Effective communication skills and the ability to use e-mail/computer-based functions are required. Knowledge, skills, and abilities related to wildlife damage management and/or a degree in wildlife or natural resources are preferred but not required. Primary duties include hazing, trapping and/or lethally removing wildlife that pose a strike risk. Preference will be given to candidates with past experience in hazing, trapping, and/or removing wildlife. Knowledge of wildlife biology and the ability to identify wildlife by sight and sound, especially birds, is essential.

QUALIFICATIONS:

FOR THE GS-3 GRADE LEVEL:

Applicants must have 6 months of general experience that may have been obtained in the private or public (local, county, state, Federal).

OR

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.

FOR THE GS-4 GRADE LEVEL:

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

Use of wildlife damage control techniques (including, but not limited to traps, snares, firearms, attractant baits) to capture wildlife and to alleviate damage caused by aquatic rodents, predators, birds and other animals.

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.

Inspect and survey areas with the ability to recognize various wildlife.

Meeting and communicating with individuals or groups.

Recognize habits, characteristics, and habitats occupied by a variety of mammalian and avian 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, chemistry, statistics, entomology, animal husbandry, 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 which demonstrates:

Use of wildlife damage control techniques (including, but not limited to traps, snares, firearms, attractant baits) to capture wildlife and to alleviate damage caused by aquatic rodents, predators, birds and other animals.

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.

Inspect and survey areas with the ability to recognize various wildlife

Meeting and communicating with individuals or groups

Recognize habits, characteristics, and habitats occupied by a variety of mammalian and avian 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, chemistry, statistics, entomology, animal husbandry, botany, physics, agriculture, or mathematics, with at least 6 semester hours in wildlife.

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 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.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

Ability to identify common North Carolina wildlife species by sight, sound, tracks, scat, type of depredation or damage present, examine other appropriate evidence and correctly identify such damage situations and relate them to the depredating species.

Knowledge of the life history, behavior, and habitat requirements of a wide variety of North Carolina avian and mammalian species that may be involved in damage to property and agricultural resources, cause nuisance problems, require disease monitoring or pose threats to human health and safety.

Ability to independently identify damage problems and relate them to the depredating species and to select and implement the most effective means of damage management.

Knowledge of commonly used wildlife damage management techniques, methods, equipment, and materials required for effective use of harassment and exclusion, habitat modification, and population management approaches.

Must be able to apply invasive species concepts, and be familiar with effective strategies for managing invasive species impacts and populations.

Must demonstrate safety in all operations, including the operation of motor vehicles, 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
- Must be able to pass a criminal background check
- 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:

Christopher Bowser
Wildlife Biologist
EAD, PSC Box 8006
Bldg. 4223 Access Road
MCAS Cherry Point, NC
28533-0006

christopher.o.bowser@aphis.usda.gov

Deadline to receive application materials is **February 9, 2015**. Interviews will be scheduled shortly thereafter. If you have any questions, please call Christopher Bowser at (252) 466-9237 or Emily Gaydos at (252) 902-1755.

