Below is the vacancy announcement for the At-Risk Species Coordinator position in the Southwest Regional Office, Division of Ecological Services-Branch of Decision Support. We are looking for talented, creative applicants with strong partnership-building skills and a vision for collaborative conservation of at-risk species at a landscape level. This position will work with and maintain relationships with federal agencies, state and local wildlife agencies, Tribes, land managers, and private landowners in Texas and Oklahoma. The position is based in the Southwestern Regional Office in Albuquerque, and will interact frequently with colleagues in field offices, other regional offices, and Headquarters, and coordinate closely with the At-Risk Species Coordinator for Arizona and New Mexico. We are offering several options for the duty station: Albuquerque, NM; Arlington, TX; Austin, TX; or Houston, TX. Please circulate this announcement to anyone who may be interested in applying. For questions, please contact Melanie Ruiz, Branch of Decision Support Supervisor via email/Teams or at 505-259-0335.

The ideal candidate has the ability to think about and deliver conservation from a large-scale perspective, and in a sense, help build resilient systems. The incumbent will be primarily responsible for: developing collaborative relationships with partners and engaging them to define priorities, best management practices, and action plans for conserving at-risk species and species of greatest conservation need; working with partners to identify science and data needs to inform decision-making processes; and, promoting voluntary conservation actions to preclude the need for ESA protections.

IMPORTANT NOTE: We are using Direct Hire Authority (DHA) to fill this position via a bundled hire with several other GS-13 FWS positions. Everyone applies together and all applicants who meet the minimum requirements are referred. Unless someone is eligible for CTAP/ICTAP (displaced federal employees) consideration, applicants will apply under the Public option, even if they are a current federal employee.

**GS-401-13**

**Opens: March 23, 2021**  
**Closes: April 6, 2021**

[https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/596052800](https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/596052800)

**About the Southwest Region:** The Southwest’s distinctive landscapes provide habitat for a wide variety of remarkable native plant and animal species, including about nearly 200 species that are protected under the Endangered Species Act. In Arizona, wildlife adapts to exist in environments ranging from lowland deserts to scenic mountain peaks. New Mexico’s vistas intertwine with ancient cultural landscapes accommodating many species sacred to Native Americans. From the gulf coast beaches to the plains of the panhandle, Texas is home to a wide variety of species including whooping cranes, the Kemps Ridley sea turtle, and the lesser prairie-chicken. Oklahoma’s expansive landscapes include species that represent the historic character of the West, where prairie dogs, elk and bison still roam the plains. Weaving through all of these landscapes are hundreds of species of migratory birds that migrate through the Southwest Region.

**About New Mexico’s biggest city:** Albuquerque is a vibrant city with a diverse people, culture and history. No matter your interests, the city has countless opportunities for you to explore. Sample traditional New Mexican cuisine that takes minutes to make and hundreds of years to prepare, experience world-class museums, stroll along Central Avenue under the vintage neon glow of Route 66, or soar high above the city in the hot air ballooning capital of the world.
The city’s climate features 300 sunny days a year, while temperatures are moderated by its mile-high elevation. ABQ enjoys four seasons with potential snow in the winter and sunny days in the 90s during the summer. Enjoy the city’s 286 urban parks and 113 miles of urban trails including 16 miles of trails through the Rio Grande’s cottonwood bosque (forest). Looming directly to the east are the Sandia Mountains, a range that tops out at over 10,000 feet and is great for hiking, trail running, mountain biking, and skiing. Other world-renowned skiing can be found within a few hours. Fantastic road biking routes head out (and up) in all directions. In the spring, kayakers and rafters flock to whitewater stretches of the Rio Grande and Rio Chama. And it’s the Hot Air Balloon Capital of the world! All told, New Mexico features ~27,000,000 acres of public lands as your playground!

Fun Facts about ABQ. Bet you didn't know ABQ ranks as:

- #1 City in the Southwest (Sunset Magazine)
- Top 10 cities for active life and active families (Time & Outdoor Magazine respectively)
- Top 10 cities for achieving work-life balance (Zippia.com)
- Top 10 best up-and-coming towns for college grads (CBS News)
- Top 10 most bikeable cities in America (Walk Score)
- Top 20 big cities for open space land (Trust for Public Land).
- Top 20 cities for beer lovers (Travel and Leisure).
- Top 20 hippest US cities (Insider) and one of America's next trendy cities (Travelocity)
- Top 10 most friendly cities in America (Travel and Leisure).
- Top 10 most wildlife-friendly cities in the USA (USA Today).
- Top 20 LGBT friendly cities (SeniorAdvise)
- A top global destination in 2018 (NY Times, LA Times & Travel and Leisure)

Want to know a little more, see these fun videos
- Living in ABQ: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G3NB5T6Ob1M
- New Mexico True: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wl2h7-hcRpA
- Natural Beauty of ABQ: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZzRLNZFBVOw

About Austin, Texas: Austin is Texas’ capital city and is known as the ‘live music capital of the world.’ Austin is located at the prominent Balcones Escarpment along the Interstate Highway 35 Corridor in central Texas. Austin is the 11th most populous city in the US and the 4th most in Texas, with a metro area population of approximately 2 million. Austin is home to the University of Texas at Austin and several Fortune 500 companies have offices in the area. The climate is semi-arid with hot summers, mild winter days, and cool winter nights. Austin has been recognized as the most wildlife-friendly city in America.

About Houston, Texas:

Houston Facts & Figures | Find Population, Culture & Industry Data
Houston’s mix of international appeal and Southern charm have captured the imagination of tastemakers the world over. Read on for a few insider facts on the nation’s fourth largest city. Size At 655 square miles, the City of Houston could contain the cities of New York, Washington, Boston, San ...
www.visithoustontexas.com

https://www.visithoustontexas.com/about-houston/facts-and-figures/
About Arlington, Texas:

- Arlington Among Hardest Working Cities in US
- Arlington Ranks 7th for Top Cities for Veteran Entrepreneurs
- Arlington is the first city in the country to achieve GBAC Star Facility Accreditation for Municipal Buildings
- Arlington Named a Best City for First-Time Homebuyers
- Arlington named 16th Best Place to Live in Texas by HomeCity
- SmartAsset Ranks Arlington #6 in Top 25 U.S. Cities to Buy an Affordable Family Home
- Arlington makes WalletHub’s List of Most Diverse Large Cities
- Arlington ranks among Top 10 Most Fiscally Sound Big Cities in U.S.
- UT Arlington Among National Leaders in Educating Diverse Students
- Arlington Ranks in Most Livable U.S. Cities
- Arlington ranks #3 Best Cities for Veteran Homebuyers
- Arlington is the First City in Texas to Achieve the What Works Cities Certification by Bloomberg Philanthropies
- Arlington ranked ‘Best-Run City’ in Texas for second straight year
- DFW Airport earns Air Transport World’s 2019 Global Airport of the Year
- Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington ranked No. 4 Among ‘Most Entrepreneurial Cities of 2018’
- Arlington is a 20-time Tree City USA Community through the Arbor Day Foundation
- Arlington ranked No. 10 in ‘Most Affordable Cities for Early Retirement’
- Arlington ranked 'Best-Run City' in Texas
- WalletHub ranks Arlington as 2018’s 10th Most Diverse City in America (6th among large cities)
- Arlington ranks among the Best-Run Cities in America
- Arlington is one of the Most Diverse Cities in America
- Arlington listed among cities with the Lowest Cost of Living in America
- The Best Places to Live in the U.S. in 2017
- Arlington ranks among top in Healthy U.S. Housing list
- Four Arlington ISD schools named 2016 Texas Honor Roll Schools
- Forbes ranks Arlington as one of the best places to buy a home
- Arlington ranks among the 20 best cities to live in for first-time homeowners
- Arlington has been listed among the 35 Best Places to Live in the U.S. if you’re under 35
- Money magazine has named Arlington as the “Best Big City” in the South
- Arlington ranked #4 on SmartAssets.com's 'Best Cities to Raise a Family' list
- Arlington named among Top 10 'Best Cities for Veteran Homebuyers to Live'