

# PHEASANTS FOREVER & QUAIL FOREVER

*The Habitat Organization*

## **JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist**

**Location:** Iowa

**Application Deadline:** September 13, 2019

**Anticipated Start Date:** October 1, 2019



#### **Overview:**

Work in a joint capacity with Pheasants Forever, Inc. (PF), USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS), the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, local Soil and Water Conservation Districts and other partners to promote, accelerate enrollment, plan, coordinate and implement the conservation provisions of the Federal Farm Bill and other related state, local and non-profit wildlife conservation programs. Conservation planning and implementation support to farmers and landowners with an emphasis on soil, water and wildlife resources in agricultural landscapes. Meet with local chapters of Pheasants Forever and other local partners to influence habitat management efforts and participate in statewide habitat meetings. Attend Farm Bill Biologist training and assist in coordinating technical assistance efforts.

The incumbent will work from USDA Service Center offices in the following counties:

Carroll, Sac, Ida, and Crawford Counties – home office located in Denison, IA

The incumbent is an employee of Pheasants Forever, Inc. and receive supervision from Pheasants Forever with daily direction provided by the local USDA-NRCS District Conservationist. The incumbent will serve as a USDA NRCS Conservation Programs Biologist providing biological/wildlife aspects of USDA NRCS Conservation Programs, IA Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and other programs.

#### **Duties:**

- Receive, maintain, and stay current with technical training with the goal of becoming and maintaining certified NRCS conservation planner-status.
- Make contacts with private landowners through personal contacts, referrals, and informational meetings.
- Develop long-term conservation plans to improve the natural resources of Iowa, including wildlife habitat and wildlife populations, and address all conservation needs on their properties. Assist the landowners in the development of conservation plans according to established policies and procedures in accordance with farm management decisions. Interprets soil survey maps, explains proper land use and recommends appropriate conservation measures to landowners in preparing plans.
- Help clients apply for financial assistance programs and provide service to existing contracts.
- Conduct follow-up contacts with clients.
- Situation-specific technical assistance.
- Assist with conservation practice implementation to improve water quality, reduce soil erosion, and wildlife habitat. Explain Federal, State, and local financial assistance programs to clients.
- Assist landowners/producers referred through Precision Agriculture Business Planning Partnership.
- Develop CRP burn plans as well as Mid-Contract Management Plans.

- Provide monthly written reports on activities and accomplishments.
- Assist with public information activities as appropriate, including news article writing, workshops, field day and other activities

**Required Knowledge Skills and Abilities:**

- Proven ability to communicate clearly and effectively with landowners and partner agencies.
- Desire to provide high level of customer service to landowners and producers.
- Ability to work independently with little supervision and with diverse clientele.
- Knowledge of wildlife ecology, wetland and grassland management including the ability to utilize various habitat management tools in the development of management plans.
- Collegiate level soil science classes a plus.
- A desire to learn and gain a thorough understanding of NRCS/SWCD soil and water conservation programs; agronomic, engineering, hydrologic, biology, and forestry concepts, principles and practices, and/or program requirements and procedures
- Proven experience with ArcGIS, ArcMap, and/or ToolKit.
- Knowledge of Iowa farming and agricultural systems.
- Excellent verbal and written communication.
- Strong organizational skills.
- Valid driver's license required; some use of personal vehicle required (mileage reimbursement provided).
- Able to obtain USDA Federal Security Clearance.

**Experience Guideline:** A Bachelor of Science Degree in Wildlife Management or closely related natural resources field is required.

**Starting Salary:** \$33,000 + Health Benefits and Retirement Package

**To Apply:** Visit our website at: [www.pheasantsforever.org/jobs](http://www.pheasantsforever.org/jobs)

**For More Information:** Contact Jamie Cook, Iowa State Coordinator, [jcook@pheasantsforever.org](mailto:jcook@pheasantsforever.org) or 859-779-0222.

ONLY ONLINE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED. Please combine your cover letter, resume and 3 references into a single Word document or PDF file before uploading to the Recruitment website.

*Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever are an EEO Employer/Vet/Disabled*