Habitat Forever, LLC

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Habitat Specialist - Kansas
(One position)

Application Deadline: June 4, 2021
Location: Cedar Bluff WMA, Ellis, KS

Anticipated Start Date: July 1, 2021. This is a full-time position.

Overview: This position is part of a partnership between Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) and Habitat Forever, LLC (HF). The incumbents will conduct habitat management work on public wildlife management areas. They are full-time employees of Habitat Forever and will receive daily leadership from KDWP Field Managers. Position will be located at the Cedar Bluff Wildlife Area near Ellis, Kansas.

Duties: The incumbent will assist with all aspects of managing the assigned wildlife management area. Major responsibilities include:

- Directing, supervising, and implementing habitat management work on public wildlife areas;
- Procuring supplies and equipment;
- Supervising and participating in the construction, maintenance and repair of area buildings, equipment, and roads;
- Coordinating agricultural permits to insure positive benefits for wildlife;
- Providing public information;
- Participating in scientific field studies and surveys;
- Participating in training and evaluation of seasonal employees.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

Required Knowledge Skills and Abilities:

- A basic understanding of environmental, agricultural and/or natural resource science. Education may be substituted for experience as determined relevant by the partners. Preference will be given to candidates that possess a bachelor’s degree with an emphasis in wildlife management;
- A strong background in operating, maintaining, and transportation of large farm equipment and implements.
- Training and experience with Rx fire is required
- Ability to communicate clearly and effectively with colleagues and partner agencies;
- Ability to work independently with little supervision;
- Knowledge of wildlife ecology, wetland and grassland management including the ability to utilize various habitat management equipment and tools in the development of wildlife habitat;
- Excellent verbal/written communication and organizational skills;
- Valid driver’s license required.

Training and Experience Guideline: Any combination of training and/or experience that will enable the applicant to possess the required knowledge, skills and abilities. One year of work experience in a wildlife management related job. A general qualification guideline for this position is a Bachelor of Science Degree in Wildlife Management or closely related natural resources field and/or related field experience.

Salary: $33,000-$33,500 depending on experience and qualifications + Benefits.

To Apply: Please combine your cover letter, resume and 3 references into a single Microsoft Word document or Adobe Acrobat PDF file on the recruitment website: www.pheasantsforever.org/jobs If you have questions, contact: Matt O’Connor, Habitat Forever Coordinator 563-926-2357, moconnor@pheasantsforever.org

Habitat Forever, LLC is an EEO Employer/Vet/Disabled.
Description of Area:

**Cedar Bluff Wildlife Area**

Cedar Bluff Wildlife Area currently encompasses approximately 11,250-acres of land surrounding a 3,000-acre reservoir. Located approx. 13 miles south of Ogallah, KS. (I-70) on KS Highway 147, the lake was built in 1952 by the US Bureau of Reclamation for irrigation, flood control, and recreation. Irrigation releases discontinued in 1978 but low inflows resulted in an all-time low in 1992 (54 ft low). In 1993 the reservoir received abundant rains and regained nearly 30 ft of water and completely filled in 1998. Since that time the reservoir has continued on a slower decline to approx. 25 ft low.

The Area is in the mixed grass prairie region of Kansas and is bisected by the Smoky Hill River which feeds the reservoir but has remained dry in most recent years. The upland areas are diverse with mixed grass high chalk bluffs, rolling hills, fragrant sumac, cedars and yucca. Bottom lands are primarily cottonwood, willow and locust.

A variety of game is found at Cedar Bluff including pheasant, quail, waterfowl, small game, deer, and turkey. Management continually seeks strategies to enhance hunting experiences and opportunities. Habitat management efforts are directed towards deer, upland game birds, turkey and waterfowl using a wide variety of techniques including: agricultural food plots, prescribed burning, disking, spraying, grazing and inter-seeding native grass.