Habitat Forever, LLC

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Habitat Specialist – 1 position
Norton WA, Webster WA

Application Deadline: April 2, 2021
Location: Norton, Kansas

Anticipated Start Date: May 2021

Overview: These positions are part of a partnership between Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) and Habitat Forever, LLC (HF). The Habitat Specialist will assist manager and co-workers with management of the Norton WA (see description below). The incumbent will also assist the Webster WA manager with the management of the Webster WA and associated properties. Properties range in size from 40-8,000 acres and are predominately mixed grassland ecosystems that have riparian areas along rivers, creeks, or lakes. Management is focused on early successional habitat which benefits all wildlife species but puts an emphasis on upland game.

Duties: The incumbents 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;
- 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;
- Prescribed Fire experience and formal fire training is important.
- 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 applicants to possess the required knowledge, skills and abilities. One year of work experience in a wildlife management related job. Ability to maintain, operate, and transport farm machinery needed for broad range of habitat projects. 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.

Pay: $33,000.00 Salary depending on experience and qualifications + benefits.

Application Requirements: Combine your cover letter, resume, and 3 references into a single Word document or PDF file before uploading to our Recruitment website at www.pheasantsforever.org/jobs
If you have additional questions, please contact Matt O’Connor, Habitat Forever Coordinator 563-926-2357, moconnor@pheasantsforever.org

**Pheasants Forever, Inc & Habitat Forever, LLC is an EEO Employer/Vet/Disabled**

**Norton Wildlife Area** is a 6,000 acre wildlife area surrounding the 2,000 acre Sebelius Reservoir just west of Norton, KS on Hwy 36. It is predominately grassland habitat. The main focus is on upland game and providing a mix of early, mid, and late successional habitat in the grassland ecosystem. The riparian area is managed as a mixture of dense understory and open cottonwood savannahs to benefit deer and turkeys. There are approximately 1,500 acres of planted crops on the wildlife area using local farmers and KDWPT equipment.

**Sheridan State Fishing Lake** is a 325 acre property surrounding a 60 acre lake approx. 12 miles east of Hoxie, KS. on Hwy 24. It is open to fishing and primitive camping. There is a native mixed grass prairie surrounding the lake. The main management focus is on the campground and fishing access.

**South Fork Wildlife Area** is a 1,000 acre property located on the South edge of the Arikaree Breaks in Cheyenne County, Kansas. The property is 15 miles northeast of St. Francis, KS and 5 miles south of the Nebraska border. The South Fork of the Republican River runs through the southern edge of the property creating a cottonwood riparian area. The river bottom is managed for deer and turkey by creating a mix of dense understory and open cottonwood savannahs and also using food plots. The Arikaree Breaks cover the Northern portion of the property and is mostly mixed grass prairie.

**Saint Francis Wildlife Area** is a 500 acre property that is bisected by the South Fork of the Republican River 4 miles west of St. Francis, KS. It also has two small sandpits on it to attract waterfowl and provide fishing. It is managed mainly for deer and turkey but a quarter of the property is managed for upland game animals.

If you have questions regarding the Norton Wildlife Area, contact:
MGR: Luke Winge (785-877-2953)
13037 K-261
Norton, KS 67654
luke.winge@ks.gov

For information on Webster WA follow this link:
https://ksoutdoors.com/KDWPT-Info/Locations/Wildlife-Areas/Northwest/Webster

If you have questions regarding the Webster Wildlife Area, contact:
Joe Lambert, Area Manager (785)425-6775; joe.lambert@ks.gov