



PHEASANTS FOREVER and QUAIL FOREVER
The Habitat Organization
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT



Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist I or II

Location: Bryan, OH or Defiance, OH

Application Deadline: Open until filled or until 9/24/2021 (whichever comes first)

Anticipated Start Date: October 2021

Overview: This position will be an employee of and supervised by Pheasants Forever, Inc. and Quail Forever (PF & QF), with daily instruction, quality assurance, training, and workload prioritization provided by USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Ohio Division of Wildlife (DOW), and the PF & QF State Coordinator and Senior Farm Bill Biologist. The work area includes Williams, Defiance, Fulton, and Henry Counties, with the primary duty station located in the Bryan or Defiance USDA Service Center. Occasional service to counties outside the primary work area may be required to address annual workload variance and assist teammates and partners. The biologist will work in joint capacity with NRCS, DOW, and other partners to promote, accelerate enrollment, coordinate and implement the conservation provisions of the Federal Farm Bill and other related wildlife conservation programs. Primary workload will focus on the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), including the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE), plus other relevant Farm Bill programs such as Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), and Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP).

Job Duties:

- Provide technical assistance (wildlife habitat focus) and guidance to private landowners, government agencies, non-government organizations and other groups primarily through federal Farm Bill programs. Training provided jointly by NRCS, DOW, and PF & QF.
- Complete conservation plans, job sheets, wildlife habitat evaluation guides (WHEG) and other required documentation for the conservation programs requiring biological expertise in cooperation with the listed partners.
- Communicate program requirements, complete site visits to determine eligibility, and develop contract documents for applicants and participants of Farm Bill conservation programs and other local and state programs.
- Review plans and specifications for feasibility for implementation under Farm Bill program contract rules, etc.
- Specific activities for CRP may include evaluations and conservation planning for new and re-enrolled contracts, mid-contract management and maintenance evaluations and recommendations, and status reviews.
- Accelerate conservation program enrollment by conducting outreach such as workshops, field days, demonstration events, and habitat tours.
- Provide on-site landowner technical assistance for conservation practice implementation.
- Work with local PF & QF chapters to assist with habitat program education and outreach and provide technical assistance for habitat projects.

Required Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Ability to communicate clearly and effectively with landowners and partner agency staff.
- Ability to work independently with little supervision and with diverse clientele.

- Knowledge of wildlife ecology, grassland, wetland and early succession habitat management including the ability to utilize various habitat management tools in the development of management plans. Specific knowledge of grassland/farmland associated wildlife species' habitat requirements is desirable.
- Knowledge of conservation and wildlife programs provided through the Farm Bill, as well as other federal, state, & local entities.
- Knowledge of agricultural landscapes, common farming and land use practices, and basic agricultural economics is desirable.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Strong organizational skills, time management, and attention to detail.
- Proficiency with ArcGIS is required.
- Valid driver's license required; use of personal vehicle required with a mileage reimbursement provided.
- Must be able to obtain USDA Federal Security Clearance.

Education and Experience Preferred: Any combination of training and/or experience that will enable the applicant to possess the required knowledge, skills and abilities. A Bachelor of Science Degree in Wildlife Management or closely related natural resources field is required. At least 2 years of professional experience are required for a Farm Bill Biologist II. Proven experience working with USDA Farm Bill programs is preferred. The ideal candidate will exhibit a balance of technical knowledge and interpersonal skills required to implement voluntary conservation programs on private lands. Practical and/or professional experience in farming and agricultural disciplines is highly beneficial. The successful applicant must enjoy working with private landowners and producers to achieve their conservation objectives.

Salary: Starting range of \$35,265 to \$38,792 (Commensurate with experience and qualifications), plus Benefits

Application Requirements: Please combine your cover letter which should outline your experience and interest in this position, along with your resume and 3 references into a single *Microsoft Word* document or *Adobe Acrobat* PDF file before uploading to the "Resume" section of your application on our Recruitment website at www.pheasantsforever.org/jobs .

If you have questions about this position, contact: Cody Grasser, Ohio State Coordinator, cgrasser@pheasantsforever.org or 419-551-3875.

Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever are an EEO Employer/Vet/Disabled