JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist
Manchester, Tennessee

Application Deadline: June 7th, 2021

Anticipated Start Date: July 15th, 2021

Overview: Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever’s Farm Bill Biologist Program is a collaborative federal, state, and private partnership. This position will be an employee of and supervised by Quail Forever (QF), with daily instruction, quality assurance, training, and workload prioritization provided by USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA), and the QF State Coordinator. The work area will include the Cumberland Plateau (NRCS Area 3) and southern middle Tennessee (NRCS Area 2), with the primary duty station located in the Manchester 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, TWRA, 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), Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), and Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP).

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, TWRA, and QF.
- Complete conservation plans, job sheets, implementation requirement 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.
- Accelerate conservation program enrollment and understanding by conducting outreach and education activities such as workshops, field days, demonstration events, interviews, and habitat tours. Also prepare outreach and education materials such as articles, pamphlets, presentations, etc.
- Provide technical recommendations and input for local working groups and operational meetings.
- Provide on-site landowner technical assistance for conservation practice implementation.
- Work with local 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 preferred.
- Valid driver’s license required; some use of personal vehicle may be 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. 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. A successful applicant must enjoy working with private landowners to achieve their objectives.

**Salary:** Commensurate with experience and qualifications + Benefits

**Application Requirements:** Please combine your cover letter, resume and 3 references into a single Microsoft Word document or Adobe Acrobat PDF file on the Recruitment website at www.pheasantsforever.org/jobs

**If you have questions, please contact:** Brittney Viers, QF Grasslands RCPP Coordinator, bviers@quailforever.org or (731)-358-1860

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