Waterfowl Technician in the Arkansas Delta
Arkansas Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research, University of Arkansas

**Description:** A technician is needed to aid in a project analyzing mallard body mass variation within and among winters in the Lower Mississippi Valley (LMV) of Arkansas during the 2019-2020 waterfowl hunting season. Responsibilities will include gathering data from hunters and game bird cleaning businesses. The technician will be expected to accurately collect data such as body mass, sex, and age, as well as preserve samples of saliva, blood, and fecal matter from harvested mallard ducks. The waterfowl hunting season dates are made up of three different splits: November 23rd – December 2nd, December 11th – December 23rd, and December 26th – January 31st. It is planned that the technician will work each day during a split, but will be off duty in between the three splits (unless it is decided that a couple of these days will be utilized for reassessment or planning). The technician will be stationed in Cotton Plant, Arkansas on the Cache River National Wildlife Refuge. The nine-bedroom housing facility has “okay” cell reception with most providers and cable TV. There is no internet. The technician will have their own bedroom. However, the technician will have to share the lodge periodically with other university researchers and youth hunters during the field season. No pets. Alcohol is prohibited on the premises. The Arkansas Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit will provide a field vehicle for the technician to travel between field sites.

**Qualifications:** Applicants must have a positive attitude and be able to work closely with waterfowl hunters and members of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. Applicants must be capable of working alone with little supervision. A valid driver’s license is necessary and experience driving a 4x4 vehicle is a plus. Experience measuring wing length with a wing ruler, identifying age using key features on mallard wings, having had waterfowl hunting experience, and familiarity with the area in and around the LMV of Arkansas are helpful.

**Project Dates:** The successful applicant will report on 11/20/19 and will work during the following splits unless otherwise noted: November 23rd – December 2nd, December 11th – December 23rd, and December 26th – January 31st. However, the technician’s last day will be 2/8/20.

**Salary:** $11 per hour and housing is covered.

**Application Materials:** Please e-mail a single PDF of a cover letter, CV/resume, and contact information for three references to John Veon at johnveon@email.uark.edu. The subject header of the e-mail should read “Mallard Body Mass Technician Application”. The last date to apply is November 1st, 2019. However, I will begin the interview process as applications are received until the position is filled.