



## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**OPEN DATE:** March 22, 2018

**CLOSING DATE:** March 29, 2018

**POSITION TITLE:** **Biological Science Technician (Wildlife Specialist)**

**TYPE OF POSITION:** Term Appointment with possibility for Benefits, Excepted Service  
Not to Exceed 13 months (may be extended up to 4 years)

**WORK SCHEDULE:** Full-time

**ANNOUNCEMENT #:**

**SERIES/GRADE:** GS-0404-5/6

**FULL PERFORMANCE LEVEL:** GS-0404-6

**NUMBER OF POSITIONS:** 2

**LOCATION:** Moseley, VA  
(Relocation expenses will not be paid)

**SALARY:** \$34,384 – 49,819 per year

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Animal and  
Plant Health  
Inspection  
Service

Wildlife  
Services

Utah State  
Office

PO Box 26976  
Salt Lake City,  
Utah 84126  
Ph: (801) 975-3315  
Fax: (801) 975-3320

An Equal Opportunity  
Employer

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### **WHO MAY APPLY:**

- Must be a U.S. Citizen
- Must be 18 years old
- If you are a male born after December 31, 1959 and are at least 18 years of age, civil service employment law (5 U.S.C. 3328) requires that you must be registered with the Selective Service System, unless you meet certain exemptions (proof of registration and/or exemption required). Website: <http://www.sss.gov>.

### **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:**

Resume  
Transcripts (if qualifying on education)  
DD-214 (Member 4 copy) and/or VA letter required for applicable Veteran preference.  
Current active duty members must submit a certification that they are expected to be discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions not later than 120 days after the date the certification is submitted.

**HOW TO APPLY:** Additional materials not listed above (i.e. position descriptions, training certificates, etc.) may not be considered. Applicants who do not submit the required items listed

above may not be considered. Applications with all supporting documents must be submitted to the contact office and must be **RECEIVED** by the **CLOSING DATE** of this announcement.

Interested individuals should send a resume, transcripts, veteran documentation (if applicable) to the address listed here:

**CONTACT OFFICE:**

Jennifer Cromwell  
USDA, APHIS, Wildlife Services  
PO Box 130  
Moseley, VA 23120  
[Jennifer.S.Cromwell@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Jennifer.S.Cromwell@aphis.usda.gov)  
(804) 739-7739

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** If you should need the forms identified in above paragraph, feel free to contact 804-739-7739 for a copy.

**DUTIES:**

The incumbent will be required to perform a variety of tasks requiring a general knowledge of biology, population ecology as it pertains to invasive species management, agriculture, and wildlife damage management. The incumbent will perform some or all of the following in support of the USDA WS program.

- Serve as a member of the VA WS work force engaged in providing technical assistance for wildlife damage management. This involves answering a toll-free Nuisance Wildlife Information Line and communicating practical advice to the general public relating to wildlife conflicts.
- Provide information on nuisance wildlife management strategies to callers on the toll-free line with wildlife problems. The information will be both verbal and written.
- Identify wildlife damage and animal sign of damaging species and non-target species and implement appropriate species selective management actions.
- May negotiate or participate in the negotiation of cooperative agreements/funds with program cooperators.
- Keep accurate records on work activities for the cooperator and WS program using prescribed formats and procedures, and prepare/submit reports and summaries related to job activities and accomplishments.
- Participate in public outreach events to further the goals of the WS program.
- Work cooperatively with coworkers to support program goals and objectives.
- Operate trucks, motorized boats, canoes, and ATVs safely and in accordance with standard operating procedures.
- Participate in other wildlife damage management programs as directed by supervisor.

Incumbent may be required to serve as an instructor and conduct training for cooperators or other interested groups on WS control methods, procedures, and program objectives. This may include preliminary instruction and training of new WS personnel on WS equipment and control methods, reporting procedures, field responsibilities and other technical aspects of the program, as well as educational presentations to groups. Incumbent may represent WS at local meetings, conferences, and workshops and with the local press regarding issues relative to the VA WS program.

**MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

To qualify, applicants **MUST** meet all minimum qualification requirements, except Medical Requirements, by the closing date of the announcement.

**QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:**

**For the GS-5 Grade Level:**

Applicants must have one year of specialized experience (equivalent to the GS-4 level) that may have been obtained in the private or public (local, county, state, federal) sectors which demonstrate experience in:

- Identifying North American wildlife species.
- The principles of wildlife ecology and management.
- Meeting and communicating with individuals or groups.
- Conducting basic computer operations for record keeping, data analysis, report writing and correspondence.

**OR**

Successful completion of a full 4-year course of study leading to a bachelor's degree with major study, or at least 24 semester hours, in any combination of scientific or technical courses such as biology, chemistry, entomology, animal husbandry, botany, physics, agriculture, or mathematics, with at least 6 semester hours in wildlife management.

**For the GS-6 Grade Level:**

Applicants must have one year of specialized experience (equivalent to the GS-5 level) that may have been obtained in the private or public (local, county, state, federal) sectors which demonstrates experience in:

- Dealing with human-wildlife conflicts and principles of wildlife damage management.
- The requirements of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), Endangered Species Act, and National Environment Policy Act
- Meeting and communicating with individuals or groups.
- Conducting wildlife count and abundance surveys
- The use of firearms, traps, snares, pesticides, immobilizing drugs, pyrotechnics, electronic harassment devices, and other non-lethal control tools.

**OR**

Successfully completed 1 year of graduate education (18 semester hours) in a wildlife related area.

**OR**

**Combination of Education and Experience at the GS-5/6 Grade Level:**

Applicants may have combinations of successfully completed education and specialized experience to meet total qualification requirements. The total percentages must equal at least 100 percent to qualify for that grade level.

**OTHER REQUIREMENTS:**

- Must obtain or have a valid State driver's license. Operation of Government-owned or leased vehicles is required.
- As a condition of employment, appropriate security clearance is required for this position.
- Position is subject to random and applicant drug testing.
- Must have a knowledge of and be capable of using:
  - Working with the public and other cooperating agencies
  - Communication skills
  - Electronic equipment (GPS, computer)
- Must demonstrate a respect for safety in all operations, including the operation of motor vehicles, firearms, control devices, and equipment.

In order to perform the essential duties of this position, you must have the legal and physical ability to possess and discharge firearms. You must be able to pass a government background check and meet any additional requirements to carry and use firearms. A background check will include answering questions about where you've lived, worked, went to school, and any military history or police records. Selection and retention in this position is contingent on a successfully adjudicated FBI National Criminal History Check (fingerprint check).

**Emergency Response** – APHIS is an emergency response agency. This means that all Agency employees may be asked or assigned to participate in rotating temporary duty assignments to support emergency programs at some time during their careers with APHIS. It is difficult to predict the frequency with which such emergency situations may occur – and could range from several emergencies in a year to none over the course of many years. In the event that you are called upon to support an emergency program, this may require irregular working hours, including overtime, and may include duties other than those specified in your official position description. While some emergency program support assignments may be able to be performed at the employee's current duty station, in other cases employees may be asked to go on-site to a temporary duty state location. In addition, it may be necessary for employees to participate in multiple rotations to an emergency program assignment. Attempts will be made to keep disruption to the employee to a minimum.

Failure to follow application instructions regarding filing appropriate forms and answering questions may result in loss of employment considerations for this position. **All applications must be signed, dated, and received by the closing date of this announcement.**

**NOTE: APPLICANTS FOR THIS POSITION WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT TO URINALYSIS TO SCREEN FOR ILLEGAL DRUG USE PRIOR TO APPOINTMENT. APPOINTMENT TO THE POSITION WILL BE CONTINGENT UPON A NEGATIVE DRUG TEST RESULT. INCUMBENTS OF THIS POSITION WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT TO URINALYSIS TO SCREEN FOR ILLEGAL DRUG USE ON AN ONGOING BASIS AFTER APPOINTMENT, AS DIRECTED.**

***Carrying a firearm is a condition of employment*** – In the passing of the *Lautenberg Amendment*, Congress passed legislation which prohibits anyone who has been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence from possessing a firearm or ammunition. If selected you will be required to

sign the form, "Inquiry for Positions Requiring Possession of Firearms," certifying that you meet this criteria.

**All candidates will be considered without regarding to race, creed, color, sex, age, national origin, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor.**

**Relocation costs will not be paid for this position.**