

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Job Announcement
(An Equal Opportunity Employer)



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Wildlife Service

230-59 International
Airport Centers
Boulevard
Building C, Suite
100, Room 109
Springfield Gardens,
New York 11413

Ph: 518-948-7742

OPENING DATE: October 1st, 2018

CLOSING DATE: October 15th, 2018

POSITION TITLE: Biological Science Technician (Wildlife)

TYPE OF POSITION: These positions are in the Excepted Service, and will be a GS-0404-5/6/7 13-month term appointment with possibility of renewal. **NO HOUSING WILL BE PROVIDED.** Relocation will NOT be offered for these positions. The work schedule for this position will be full-time at 40 hours per week or 80 hours per pay period. The position will begin no earlier than March 1, 2018 and will expire 13 months from the start date. This appointment can be extended after the 13 month term if funding is available. This position will accrue sick and annual leave. Also, benefits, such as health and life insurance will be offered for this position.

WORK SCHEDULE: Full time

ANNOUNCEMENT #:

SERIES/GRADE: GS-0404-5/6/7

**FULL PERFORMANCE
LEVEL:** GS-0404-7

LOCATION #1: Jamaica (Queens), New York City, NY – 6 Positions
(Relocation expenses will not be paid)

SALARY: \$38,245 - \$61,584 per year

LOCATION #2: Virginia Beach, VA – 1 Position
(Relocation expenses will not be paid)

SALARY: \$33,394 - \$53,773 per year

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 (include dates of employment and hours worked per week)

Transcripts

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.

NOTE: False statements on any part of the applications or accompanying forms or sheets may be cause for disqualification or later removal from the position.

Interested individuals may contact Wildlife Services for more information at:

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:

Thomas DeSisto
Assistant District Supervisor
USDA APHIS Wildlife Services - New York
Thomas.m.desisto@aphis.usda.gov

CONTACT OFFICE:

James R. Powell
SE District Supervisor
USDA APHIS Wildlife Services - Virginia
james.r.powell@aphis.usda.gov

If you are currently a Federal employee, include a copy of the most recent performance appraisal or a statement on the application that the rating is at least Fully Successful and the date of the rating. Additional materials not listed above (i.e. position descriptions, training certificates, etc.) may not be considered.

DUTIES:

The incumbent provides technical assistance and conducts wildlife damage management activities in an integrated pest management (IPM) approach to prevent or reduce economic loss to property and agriculture or to protect human health and safety. Management techniques and/or tools include the use of pesticides, pyrotechnics, firearms, binary explosives, aversive agents, auditory devices, exclusion, and cultural methods. IPM strategies will include non-lethal and lethal techniques.

Incumbent monitors wildlife behavior and abundance on airports and surrounding properties and may collect data for formal Wildlife Hazard Assessments at the airport and surrounding environment.

Incumbent will be required to be familiar with and to use various devices, tools, firearms, toxicants, and related equipment used in wildlife damage management.

Incumbent will be expected to be able to identify damage from wildlife species as it pertains to airports, and the incumbent will be expected to assist in the implementation of appropriate corrective action, if warranted.

The incumbent complies with federal, state, and local regulations and assists airports with compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), Endangered Species Act, Federal Air Regulations, and Department of Defense Regulations. The incumbent assists airports and other customers with obtaining migratory bird depredation permits.

Incumbent will keep accurate written records of their activities for the cooperator and Wildlife Services program using prescribed formats and procedures.

Incumbent prepares and submits routine and special reports regarding daily, weekly, or monthly activities, observations, and events.

The incumbent participates in required training sessions, on-the-job developmental activities and temporary details.

Incumbent presents program information and conducts training for various groups, including airport organizations, educational institutions, industry groups, and state extension programs.

May be required to pass Certified Applicator examination, as required of persons who use restricted-use pesticides.

Must demonstrate a respect for safety in all operations, including the operation of motor vehicles, firearms, control devices, and equipment.

The incumbent completes other duties as assigned.

MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

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

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:

Applicants must have 1 year of specialized experience equivalent in level of difficulty and responsibility to the next lower level in the Federal service. This experience is typically in, or related to, the work of the position being filled and must have equipped the applicant with the knowledge, skills, and abilities listed below.

GS-404-05 specialized experience in:

Identifying North American wildlife species.

The principles of wildlife ecology and management.

Conducting basic computer operations for record keeping, data analysis, report writing and correspondence.

Experience in the habits, characteristics and habitats occupied by a wide variety of avian and mammalian species that are, or may become, a threat in terms of economic interests, public health aspects or human.

Experience in, and the ability to interpret and apply, local, State and Federal policies, regulations, laws and ordinances that affect not only animal damage control procedures but also other wildlife species that are usually beneficial.

Experience in animal damage control techniques to carry out a full range of common technical duties.

Experience in the principles of biological sciences, technical methods and procedures of assigned tasks.

OR

EDUCATION SUBSTITUTION AT THE GS-5 GRADE LEVEL:

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, statistics, entomology, animal husbandry, botany, physics, agriculture, or mathematics, with at least 6 semester hours in wildlife.

OR

COMBINATION OF EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE AT THE GS-5 GRADE LEVELS:

Equivalent combinations of successful completed education and experience may be used to meet the total qualification requirements. The total percentage must equal at least 100 percent to qualify.

GS-404-06 level all requirements of the GS-404-05 level and specialized 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 Environmental Policy Act.

Conducting wildlife counts and abundance surveys.

The use of firearms, traps, snares, pesticides, immobilization drugs, pyrotechnics, electronic harassment devices and other non-lethal control tools.

OR

One full year of graduate education that included at least 18 semester hours with an emphasis in Wildlife.

GS-404-07 level all requirements of the GS-404-06 level and specialized experience in:

Airport wildlife hazard management.

Selecting appropriate wildlife damage management strategies, techniques, and tools and apply them to specific situations.

Interpreting and applying policies, regulations, laws, and ordinances that affect wildlife damage management operations and working within those guidelines.

Using computers for word processing, spreadsheets, GIS and database applications

Assessing the abundance, behavior, and habits of North American wildlife species.

OR

One full year of graduate education that included at least 18 semester hours with an emphasis in Wildlife.

OR

COMBINATION OF EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE AT THE GS-6/7 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.

HOW YOU WILL BE EVALUATED

Applicants who meet basic minimum qualifications may be referred to the hiring manager for selection. Qualified candidates eligible for veterans' preference will receive referral and selection priority over non-veterans.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

- Must obtain or have a valid state issued 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 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.

See this link: <https://www.usajobs.gov//Help/working-in-government/fair-and-transparent/signature-false-statements/>

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.

The United States Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, retaliation, parental status, military service, or other non-merit factor.

Reasonable Accommodation Policy-

Federal agencies must provide reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. Applicants requiring reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process should contact the hiring agency directly. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a Case-by-Case basis.

A reasonable accommodation is any change in the workplace or the way things are customarily done that provides an equal employment opportunity to an individual with a disability. Under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) must provide reasonable accommodations:

- An applicant with a disability needs an accommodation to have an equal opportunity to apply for a job.
- An employee with a disability needs an accommodation to perform the essential job duties or to gain access to the workplace.
- An employee with a disability needs an accommodation to receive equal access to benefits, such as details, training, and office-sponsored events.

Relocation costs will not be paid for this position.