



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Wildlife
Services

National Wildlife
Research Center

4101 Laporte Ave
Fort Collins, CO
80521

An Equal Opportunity
Employer

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPEN DATE: September 11, 2023

CLOSING DATE: September 15, 2023

POSITION TITLE: Biological Science Technician

OF VACANCIES: 1

TYPE OF POSITION: Temporary Intermittent Appointment, Excepted Service NTE 12 months with possibility of up to 2 years. Not Benefits eligible.

WORK SCHEDULE: Intermittent NTE 180 days in 12-month period

ANNOUNCEMENT #: NWRC-3WS027

SERIES/GRADE: GS-404-5

FULL PERFORMANCE LEVEL: GS-404-5

LOCATION: Sandusky, OH
(Relocation expenses will not be paid)

SALARY: \$39,375-\$51,193 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 days/months/years worked, work schedule, and grade level if federal)
 - 1) Personal information such as name, address, contact information
 - 2) Education
 - 3) Detailed work experience related to this position as described in the announcement including
 - Work schedule,
 - Hours worked per week,
 - Dates of employment;
 - Title, series, grade (if applicable)

- 4) All supervisors' phone numbers and if they may be contacted
- 5) Other qualifications, such as transcripts (if qualifying on education)
- Transcripts (if qualifying on education)
- DD-214 (Member 4 copy), if applicable for Veteran's Preference
- VA letter required if claiming disabled Veteran's 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:

Bradley Blackwell, PhD
Field Station & Project Leader
Ohio Field Station
National Wildlife Research Center
APHIS Wildlife Services (WS)

6100 Columbus Avenue
Sandusky, OH 44870

Office: 419-625-0242
Mobile Phone: 419-202-4782
bradley.f.blackwell@usda.gov

The position is with the National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC), Ohio Field Station, located in Sandusky, OH. The NWRC Ohio Field Station plays a unique role in understanding animal-vehicle collisions, especially wildlife hazards to aircraft and how wildlife species use airport environments. Its efforts aid in the development of management methods to reduce wildlife hazards to aviation which helps to protect both people and wildlife.

DUTIES:

Participates in conducting and reporting of a broad range of laboratory, pen, and field studies. Activities include a variety of technical procedures, including the capture and handling of wild animals, particularly birds and mammals; obtaining and preserving biological and environmental samples from water, soil, feed, feces, plants and live and dead animals in a bio-safe manner; collecting and recording detailed behavioral observations; and using sophisticated instrumentation and technology. At the direction of the Project Leader or Study Director, the incumbent assumes responsibility for assisting scientists in the following areas:

Collects, records, and tabulates biological data from laboratory, pen, and field studies in accordance with study protocols and directives that may involve direct observation (including use of optical devices in the field such as binoculars, spotting scopes, and camera adaptations to this equipment), scientific instruments and procedures, automatic data loggers, video equipment, or other data acquisition procedures;

Responsible for, and may instruct others in the maintenance, repair and safekeeping of tools, supplies and equipment;

Assists with statistical, graphical and logical analyses of data and assists with preparation of drafts of presentations or reports based on research findings and analyses; and

Prepares and submits routine and special reports regarding daily, weekly or monthly activities, observations, and other events.

Cooperates and maintains good working relationships with personnel at the research facility and cooperating universities, other projects within NWRC and Wildlife Services (WS) and cooperators such as state agencies, private companies, and university staff;

Coordinates, under the direction of the Project Leader or Study Director, the acquisition of equipment and supplies necessary for research activities;

When requested by the Project Leader or Study Director, oversees the care, maintenance, handling, veterinary care and disposition of animals used in the research program of the station and ensures that the program complies with approved Standard Operating Procedures of the NWRC; maintains daily records of animal care and provides a monthly summary of all animal records;

Conducts routine maintenance, repair, construction, and upkeep of NWRC facilities, laboratories, pens and equipment used for research activities;

Conducts demonstrations and training for cooperators or other interested groups on research procedures and results, and equipment, methods and procedures to reduce wildlife damage and disease hazards.

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-04 level) that may have been obtained in the private or public (local, county, state, Federal) sectors which demonstrates:

- Capabilities in capture and handling of wild animals; obtaining and preserving biological and environmental samples from water, soil, feed, feces, plants and live and dead animals in a bio-safe manner; collecting and recording detailed behavioral observations; and using sophisticated instrumentation and technology.
- Skills in the care, maintenance, handling, veterinary care and disposition of animals used in the research program of the station.
- Skills to conduct routine maintenance, repair, construction, and upkeep of NWRC facilities, laboratories, pens and equipment used for research activities.

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. At least 6 semester hours of courses must be in wildlife.

OR

Combination of Education and Experience at the GS-5 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: (if applicable to your position)

- Must obtain or have a valid OH driver's license. Operation of Government-owned or leased vehicles is required.
- Subject to satisfactory adjudication of background investigation and/or fingerprint check.
- Direct Deposit: Per Public Law 104-134 all Federal employees are required to have federal payments made by direct deposit to their financial institution.
- Successfully pass the E-Verify employment verification check. To learn more about E-Verify, including your rights and responsibilities, visit <https://www.e-verify.gov/>.
- Must demonstrate a respect for safety in all operations, including the operation of motor vehicles, firearms, control devices, and equipment.

- safety precautions are required to prevent disease transmission and injury. Participation in a health monitoring program is required. This program includes prophylactic immunizations.

Worksite Information:

This position is located at the duty station listed in this vacancy announcement and is not eligible for scheduled telework or remote work.

- The position requires vigorous activity involving lifting, carrying, pushing, and working outside in adverse conditions.
- Work is performed at the research station, in the office, and occasionally in the field and may involve abnormal working hours.
- Some research efforts may involve temporary duty assignments and travel.
- Weekend and holiday hours may be required

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.

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.

More than one position may be selected from this announcement.