NWTF Seeks - Wildlife Biologist/Forester Consultant

The National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) has an immediate need for a contract Wildlife Biologist and/or Forester to work in the Clinton, NC area. Work will be conducted with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and other NWTF staff to improve effectiveness, efficiency, and the implementation of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program - Working Lands for Wildlife initiative focused on longleaf pine ecosystem restoration and management.

Duties:

- Work cooperatively with the NRCS state and local offices, agency partners, and other NWTF staff to provide technical assistance to landowners utilizing the Working Lands for Wildlife (WLFW) initiative within the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
- Provide landowner consultation, eligibility evaluations, and conservation plan development
- Conduct outreach activities to include landowner workshops in identified focus areas
- Generate program applications that lead to conservation plans being developed
- Manage all aspects of planned project work including budgets, necessary reporting, and completion of established deliverables
- Develop geospatial aspects for all project work including the development of Arc maps outlining landowner properties, forest stands, and recommended conservation practices
- Promote accomplishments via NWTF, agency public relations, & media outlets
- Provide support to NRCS for implementation, checkout, and certification of planned activities utilizing conservation practice standards, specifications, and job sheets
- Support District Conservationist with development of habitat conservation plans and contracts
- Review plans and specifications contributed by 3rd parties in terms of feasibility for implementation under Farm Bill program contact rules
- Meet with landowners to evaluate progress implementing their longleaf habitat conservation plans and identify areas of improvement, provide counsel on strategies to overcome barriers to implementing practices or meeting conservation objectives, and to identify new conservation opportunities based on changing habitat conditions
- Make GIS maps with ARC software, including accurately measuring acreages associated with practice needs and implementation
- Maintain a register of requests for assistance, prioritize based on need, track progress regarding servicing such requests and implement strategies to meet demands for service
- Organize and facilitate demonstrations, field days and classroom sessions to disseminate information about longleaf habitat as requested or assigned
- Participate in regional conservation partnerships in the service area
- Provide monthly reports on work conducted and submit invoices for payment

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS: Consultant should possess experience working in Southeastern ecosystems and be knowledgeable on associated forestry / wildlife management techniques (particularly pine establishment, prescribed fire, and mid-rotation management); map reading and GIS/GPS technology, ArcGIS skills; ability to effectively communicate and work with the general public, state / federal / NGO Partners, other cooperators and peers; ability to collect and record
metrics regarding activities within the NWTF’s reporting systems; proficient skills in the use of Microsoft Office including spreadsheets, internet use, and computer applications.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Bachelor’s degree (Master’s degree preferred) or higher in wildlife management, forestry, or environmental science; experience with forestry and silviculture, conservation implementation, habitat management, wildlife biology desired
- Strong organizational skills, networking, communication (ex., verbal, presentation, interpersonal, writing), project management, and leadership ability is preferred
- Experience working with private landowners as well as Federal / State agencies with working knowledge of NRCS cost-share programs
- Ability to use Excel, ArcMap, Google Maps, and other computer mapping systems, including Trimble GPS, to identify and delineate project boundaries
- Demonstrated proficiency using Microsoft Office, Excel, Word, Powerpoint, Outlook, & social media
- Able to work in a wide range of field conditions
- Applicant will be required to participate in specific training programs to use NRCS facilities and equipment. Applicant must have a valid driver’s license & will be based out of the NRCS office in Clinton, NC

Work may require moderate overnight travel. Compensation is negotiable and reimbursement of mileage is included.

Interested parties please contact: Lynn Lewis-Weis, llewis-weis@nwtf.net, (803) 480-1840

Inquiries Deadline – Monday 5/16/16