PHEASANTS FOREVER & QUAIL FOREVER

The Habitat Organization

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Coordinating Wildlife Biologist

Location: TBD within Southwest Nebraska

Application Deadline: May 18, 2016

Anticipated Start Date: June 6, 2016

Salary Information: Commensurate with experience

Description:
The employee will work in joint capacity with Pheasants Forever, Inc. (PF), the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission (NGPC) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to coordinate the delivery of the Nebraska Pheasant Plan in the southwest Nebraska focus area. The biologist will build a successful model of coordinating habitat conservation projects on both private and public lands using federal, state, and local programs. The biologist will work closely with a wide range of resource professionals and agencies to meet the conservation objectives. This position will require the person to be a self-starter with excellent communication skills and a strong work ethic. This effort will provide an opportunity to make significant contributions to the conservation of pheasants, quail, pollinators and other wildlife in southwest Nebraska and throughout the state.

Primary Responsibilities:
Primary responsibilities of this position include promotion, coordination and implementation of federal, state, and local conservation efforts in southwest Nebraska to meet the goals and objectives of the Nebraska Pheasant Plan. This position will involve initiation of collaborative conservation efforts between private landowners, governmental organizations, and non-governmental organizations. The Coordinating Wildlife Biologist will facilitate work on both public and private lands, conduct general public outreach and education efforts, provide training opportunities for NRCS, NGPC, and PF staff, and provide guidance to staff outside of the focus area.

This biologist will link current research efforts to private and public land management and coordinate the enhancement of public hunting efforts. The biologist will have the ability to write conservation plans and contracts for federal, state, and local programs. The biologist will meet with local chapters of Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever on a regular basis to help coordinate and influence habitat management efforts and participate in statewide habitat meetings. The employee will meet regularly with NGPC staff to coordinate technical assistance efforts, implement specific conservation programs to improve wildlife habitat and promote public access. The biologist will assist or coordinate activities and projects as assigned by supervisor relevant to PF, NGPC and NRCS.

Essential Job Duties:
• Coordinate the implementation of the Nebraska Pheasant Plan in southwest Nebraska.
• Communicate land stewardship concepts, wildlife habitat management objectives, and program results effectively with private landowners, governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations and individuals.
• Coordinate and conduct wildlife conservation education and outreach activities with various public audiences.
• Provide leadership to NGPC, PF, and NRCS staff to implement federal, state, and local conservation programs to meet the goals and objectives of the Nebraska Pheasant Plan.
- Identify areas for targeted management efforts, promotion, and mailings within the southwest focus area.
- Work close with the University of Nebraska - Lincoln to apply current research and develop future research needs in southwest Nebraska.
- Identify area resource needs and limiting factors. Develop ways to address resource needs.
- Work with PF and NGPC communications division to develop promotional items for the southwest focus area that can be replicated for other Pheasant Opportunity Areas of the state.
- Work closely with USDA offices throughout the southwest focus area to communicate and promote conservation programs.
- Work with NGPC staff to develop and/or update current practice lists for the southwest focus area.
- Work with local chapters of Pheasants Forever to help fulfill their habitat mission.

**Special Note:**
It is expected that the candidate will enter into a 90 day introductory time period where training will consist of working in close contact with the PF State Coordinator, other biologist team members, and District NGPC personnel while being housed at their NRCS duty station. After the introductory period, the candidate will continue to have regular contact and receive direction from the PF State Coordinator, the NGPC District Manager and the NRCS District Conservationist. Candidate will serve on interdisciplinary conservation teams with NRCS and other partners.

**Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:**
- Excellent oral and written communication as well as organizational skills.
- Must be comfortable with public speaking and have excellent people skills.
- Must be able to work effectively with private landowners, governmental agency staff and conservation organization representatives with diverse personalities.
- Ability to work independently with little supervision to accomplish goals.
- Extensive knowledge of wildlife habitat management techniques, principles, goals and objectives.
- Extensive knowledge of conservation program offerings, including USDA Conservation Programs (CRP, CCRP, EQIP, ACEP, CSP, etc.) as well as state (NGPC) and local (PF) programs.
- Sound working knowledge of wildlife ecology and rangeland management including the ability to use various habitat management tools, such as fire or grazing, in the development of and implementation of a management plan.
- Ability to work under adverse weather conditions.
- Good computer skills including knowledge of: MS Word, MS Excel and Arc View.
- Valid driver’s license required with an acceptable driving record and history.
- Ability to organize, develop, and implement educational and outreach activities, including workshops, seminars, and publications.
- Strong coordination and communication skills a must.

**Training and Experience Guideline:**
Any combination of training and/or experience that will enable the applicant to possess the required knowledge, skills and abilities. A general qualification guideline for this position is a Bachelor of Science Degree in Wildlife Management or closely related natural resources field and 3 years related field experience.

**Application:**
To apply, visit our website at:  [www.pheasantsforever.org/jobs](http://www.pheasantsforever.org/jobs)
ONLY APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED THROUGH THE PHEASANTS FOREVER WEBSITE WILL BE ACCEPTED. Your complete application materials should combine a cover letter that outlines your interest in the position and your qualifications, along with a detailed resume, and 3 references, into one MS Word document or Adobe Acrobat PDF file on the Recruitment website.

For more information about the position, contact Kelsi Wehrman, PF State Coordinator at 402-621-0744 or e-mail at: kwehrman@pheasantsforever.org.

Pheasants Forever, Inc. is an EEO Employer/Vet/Disabled.