

WTCAC SEASONAL WORKER JOB DESCRIPTION

POSITION: USDA APHIS Wildlife Services Biological Technician – Wildlife Intern

WAGE: \$16.00 per hour

SUPERVISOR: USDA APHIS-WS District Supervisor and WTCAC Executive Director

LOCATION: Rhinelander, WI

Summary

This position is in the USDA – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service – Wildlife Services (WS) District Office in Rhinelander, WI. The incumbent serves as a biological technician, assisting the District Supervisor in providing services for a variety of cooperative wildlife damage management programs. Wildlife Services partners with a variety of agencies and groups, including Wisconsin Tribes, GLIFWC, Wisconsin DNR, US Forest Service, and others. Services provided by WS in Wisconsin include nuisance black bear management; wolf depredation management; the protection of cold-water ecosystems and trout habitat, roads, bridges, and forest resources from impacts caused by beaver; and the protection of crops and livestock from damage caused by bear, deer, turkeys, and geese. Special projects related to wildlife damage management will be developed with a Tribal natural resources department in north-central or northeast Wisconsin.

Major Duties and Requirements

- Assists in responding to complaints from the general public and agencies regarding black bears that are causing nuisance or human health and safety concerns. Requires communicating with individuals and providing sound advice and recommendations, as well as field investigations of problem sites. May also include the live trapping and relocation of certain bears to appropriate habitats.
- Assists field staff with investigations into agricultural damage caused by species eligible for the Wisconsin Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program (WDACP). Communicates with farmers and other agricultural producers about the program and eligibility requirements, learns to identify wildlife damage to crops, and assists in providing damage abatement information and equipment/supplies. May assist in performing formal damage appraisals to determine damage levels.
- Conducts assigned activities related to Coldwater ecosystem protection, including surveying streams for the presence of beaver dams and removing beaver dams if needed. Duties may also include assisting field staff with the removal of beaver as needed.
- Assists on special projects in areas of the state away from duty station, including cormorant, resident Canada goose, and wildlife hazards at airports management activities.

WTCAC SEASONAL WORKER JOB DESCRIPTION

- Assists in the maintenance of equipment and office/warehouse facilities and the transfer of equipment and supplies to field staff. May be asked to travel to many areas of northern Wisconsin. Overnight travel may be required (travel costs paid by the agency).
- May serve as an incidental motor vehicle operator on public and private roads, including rural forest roads, during daylight and after dark as needed to perform the duties of the position. The possession of a valid state driver's license is a requirement of the position.
- Required to maintain an accurate diary of daily activities as well as complete time and attendance and other reports as necessary.

Knowledge and Skills Required by Position

The WTCAC intern should have a basic knowledge of Wisconsin wildlife species, including identification, habitat, and behavior. Knowledge of customary Wisconsin agricultural practices would be helpful. Intern should have some experience in driving 4-wheel drive vehicles, including experience on rural roads such as might be found in National Forests or other remote public land situations. Experience in towing trailers would be helpful. Agency provided training for ATV operation may be required.

Intern should have some experience in navigating in wildland environments, such as use of GPS units, maps and compass, and use of canoes.

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Pursuing a higher education degree in natural resources and/or education-based field of study or equivalent experience.
2. Ability to communicate well.
3. Must have knowledge of computers and office software programs
4. Must have a valid driver's license, reliable vehicle, and insurance coverage as a condition of employment.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS: Must be able to work long days in the outdoors while exposed to the elements. Ability to walk and stand for long periods. Physical ability to lift and carry 30 lbs.

TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS: Travel as necessary to complete assigned duties to Tribal Land with occasional office days. Work-related travel will be reimbursed at the federal mileage rate. Per Diem will cover accommodation and meals.