



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPEN DATE: July 1, 2022

CLOSING DATE: July 18, 2022

POSITION TITLE: **Biological Science Technician (Wildlife)
Range Rider/Non-lethal specialist**

TYPE OF POSITION: Term Appointment NTE 4 Years
Term Appointment with possibility for Benefits, Excepted Service Not to Exceed 4 years.

WORK SCHEDULE: Full-Time, Maxi-Flex. Monday – Friday with occasional weekends, early mornings, and evenings with occasional night work.

ANNOUNCEMENT #: **USDA-WS-22-07**

Location: **Modoc or Lassen or Plumas Counties - 1 appointment**

SERIES/GRADE: AD-0404-4/5/6

FULL PERFORMANCE LEVEL AD-0404-6

SALARY: \$36,587 - \$52,341 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-that supports your specialized experience as required in the announcement, resume should be in (month/ year) format and include the number of hours worked per week
Transcripts (if qualifying on education)
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.

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:

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Wildlife
Services

An Equal Opportunity
Employer

CONTACT OFFICE:
USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Service
3419 A Arden Way
Sacramento, CA 95825
916-979-2675
Wendy Silva
Wendy.R.Silva@usda.gov

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you should need the forms identified in above paragraph, feel free to contact (916) 979-2675 for a copy.

DUTIES:

- Ride horseback over rough terrain and in other off-road environments to transport self and equipment for performing official duties.
- You will ride along with a herd to protect from predation.
- Determines and selects the most effective means of non-lethal wildlife mitigation through consultation with supervisor or other higher-graded or more experienced employees.
- Carries out duties in accordance with program decisions made in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Endangered Species Act (ESA) under guidance and oversight by supervisor.
- Complies with restrictions and mitigation measures established through consultation with relevant Federal and State agencies.
- Responsible for conducting non-lethal direct control operations under the guidance or supervision of others to reduce wildlife damage at locations for which an agreement is already in place.
- Demonstrates a respect for safety in all operations, including the operation of motor vehicles, firearms, non-lethal control devices and materials, and equipment.
- Provides appropriate technical assistance recommendations on common wildlife and WDM issues on a limited basis.

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

SELECTIVE PLACEMENT FACTOR:

- **To qualify for this position, you must own, or have access to, at least 2 horses (including tack) used to traveling in steep, mountainous landscapes in close quarters to livestock.**

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:

AD-4: Qualification Requirements for Grade Level:

Applicants must have 6 months of general experience that demonstrates the ability to perform the work of the position or experience that provided a familiarity with the subject matter or processes of the broad subject area of the occupation. In addition to this, applicants need 6 months of specialized experience equivalent in level of difficulty and responsibility to the next lower level in the Federal

service. This experience is typically, or related to the work of the position being filled. Examples of qualifying experience include, but are not limited to:

- Experience identifying North American wildlife species using field identification guides, expertise, and related non-lethal methods in support of wildlife damage management efforts.
- Experience dealing with livestock producers, government officials, and the public.
- Experience riding trail on horseback through uneven sometimes rocky landscapes

OR

Successful completion of 2 years of study that included at least 12 semester hours in any combination of courses such as biology, chemistry, statistics, entomology, animal husbandry, botany, physics, agriculture, and mathematics with at least 6 of those 12 semester hours in wildlife.

AD-5: SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE

Applicants must have 1 year specialized experience equivalent in level of difficulty and responsibility to the next lower level in the Federal Service. This experience may have been obtained in the private or public (local, county, state, Federal) sectors. Examples of qualifying experience include, but are not limited to:

- Experience using non-lethal wildlife damage control techniques and tools
- Experience working within local, state, and national rules and regulations as they apply to wildlife policies and procedures
- Experience preparing reports regarding activities, observations, events, and other relevant data collected
- Identifying various species of wildlife

OR

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

AD-6: SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE

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 may have been obtained in the private or public (local, county, state, Federal) sectors. Examples of qualifying experience include, but are not limited to:

- Experience listed in AD-5 level plus:
- Experience with providing training to producers, WS staff and other agencies on the use of non-lethal techniques to reduce losses to livestock from grey wolves.
- Contacting and developing working relationships with various parties, including but not limited to farmers, businesses, land owners, natural resources and other federal agencies.

OR

AD-6

One year of directly related graduate education (18 semester hours in Wildlife, unless defined differently by the school).

OR

COMBINATION OF EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE AT THE AD-4/5/6 GRADE LEVELS:

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. To learn more about combining education and experience for this series. Visit: <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/classification-qualifications/general-schedule-qualification-standards/#url=AD-TECH>

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

- Must have a valid state 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.
- May be required to pass the certified pesticide applicator examination within 3 months after appointment
- Position is subject to random and applicant drug testing.
- Must have a knowledge of and be capable of using:
 - Working with the public and other cooperating agencies
 - Communication skills
 - Electronic equipment (GPS, Trimble, computer)
- 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.

Failure to follow application instructions regarding filing appropriate forms and answering questions may result in loss of employment considerations for this position. **All applications must be signed, dated, and received by the closing date of this announcement.**

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.

To ensure compliance with an applicable preliminary nationwide injunction, which may be supplemented, modified, or vacated, depending on the course of ongoing litigation, the Federal Government will take no action to implement or enforce the COVID-19 vaccination requirement pursuant to Executive Order 14043 on *Requiring Coronavirus Disease 2019 Vaccination for Federal Employees*. Therefore, to the extent a federal job announcement includes the requirement that applicants must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 pursuant to E.O. 14043, that requirement does not currently apply. Federal agencies may request information regarding the

vaccination status of selected applicants for the purposes of implementing other workplace safety protocols, such as protocols related to masking, physical distancing, testing, travel, and quarantine.

Relocation costs will not be paid for this position.