



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Wildlife
Services

Montana State
Office

P.O. Box 1938
Billings, MT 59103
(406) 657-6464

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPEN DATE: February 13, 2023

CLOSING DATE: February 22, 2023

POSITION TITLE: **Biological Science Technician (Wildlife)**

TYPE OF POSITION: **Term Appointment Seasonal**, Excepted Service.
This is a Seasonal position that will last from March 26, 2023 to November 18, 2023.

WORK SCHEDULE: **Full-Time**, maxiflex including weekends, early morning hours, overnight travel will be required

ANNOUNCEMENT #: MTWS-FY23-001

SERIES/GRADE: GS-404-5/6

FULL PERFORMANCE LEVEL: GS-404-6

NUMBER OF POSITIONS: 2

LOCATION: Western Montana
(Relocation expenses will not be paid)

SALARY: \$37,696 - \$54,625 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 includes:

- 1) Personal information such as name, address, contact information
- 2) Education



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3) Detailed work experience related to this position as described in the announcement including

- Work schedule including hours per week
- Dates of employment;
- Title, series, grade (if applicable)
- **(Jobs should include hours worked and from and to dates worked, in this format DD/MO/YR) ex. Papa Johns 35 hours a week from 03/12/79-10-12 82)**
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4) All supervisors' phone numbers and if they may be contacted

5) Other qualifications

Transcripts (if qualifying on education, education must have been obtained from an accredited institution. Education completed in a foreign institution must include an evaluation by an organization that specializes in interpretation of foreign education programs that it was deemed equivalent to an accredited U.S. education program, see: [Foreign Education Evaluation](#). All transcripts must be in English or include an English translation.)

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:

Dalin Tidwell, State Director
USDA APHIS Wildlife Services
P.O. Box 1938
Billings, MT 59105
(406) 657-6464
dalin.w.tidwell@usda.gov

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you should need the forms identified in above paragraph, feel free to contact 406-657-6464 for a copy.

DUTIES:

- Performs duties relating to wildlife damage management and the use of non-lethal predator damage management techniques and procedures for the purpose of reducing predation on livestock.
- Identifies predator species by sight, sound, tracks, type of depredation or damage present; examine other appropriate evidence and correctly identify such damage situations and relate them to the depredating species.

- Is responsible for organizing, conducting, and implementing non-lethal predator damage management operations within a large geographical area as assigned by supervisor to control damage caused predators.
- Utilizes a variety of non-lethal predator damage management tools in a safe and proficient manner in conducting wildlife damage management activities.
- Maintains public contacts; providing technical assistance and formulating proper species' selective wildlife damage management strategies.
- Is responsible for reporting accomplishments, problems encountered, work locations, etc. to supervisor. Prepares and submits routine and special reports regarding daily, weekly or monthly activities, observations, events and other relevant data.
- Must demonstrate a respect for safety in all operations, including the operation of motor vehicles, management devices, and equipment.
- Participates in required training; e.g. computers, non-lethal predator damage management techniques, all-terrain vehicles (ATV), and related equipment utilized in wildlife damage management operations.
- Incumbent is entrusted with, and is responsible for, Government-owned control equipment for which an inventory must be maintained and reported, including locations, acquisitions, returns and losses.
- Responsible for coordination of non-lethal PDM in Montana. This position coordinates work on a large scale – statewide. Contacts are very diverse including numerous other WS technicians, livestock producers, numerous NGOs (Defenders of Wildlife, NRDC, People & Carnivores), Tribes (both CSKT & Blackfeet), significant contact with FWP and even with the USFWS.
- Responsible for collecting data to support an annual end of year report complete with diagrams, pictures, tables, figures, & text. Also responsible for project logs which include size of project, location, protected resources, what resources are being protected from, cost of project including cost-share, etc.

MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

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

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:

Applicants must meet all qualifications and eligibility requirements by the closing date of the announcement, including specialized experience and/or education, as defined below.

For the GS-5 Grade Level:

Applicants must have one year of specialized experience (equivalent to the GS-4 level) that may have been obtained in the private or public (local, county, state, federal) sectors which demonstrate experience in:

- Perform wildlife damage mitigation methods and techniques.

- Conduct lethal and non-lethal animal control techniques.
- Conduct basic computer operations for record keeping, data analysis, report writing and correspondence.

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.

OR

Combination of Education and Experience:

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.

For the GS-6 Grade Level:

Applicants must have one year of specialized experience (equivalent to the GS-5 level) that may have been obtained in the private or public (local, county, state, federal) sectors which demonstrates experience in:

- Dealing with human-wildlife conflicts and principles of wildlife damage management.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS: (if applicable to your position)

- Must obtain or have a valid U.S. driver's license. Operation of Government-owned or leased vehicles is required. (if this applies)
- As a condition of employment, appropriate security clearance is required for this position.
- 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.

All candidates will be considered without regarding to race, creed, color, sex, age, national origin, political affiliation, or any 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.