



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Animal and  
Plant Health  
Inspection  
Service

Wildlife  
Services

National Wildlife  
Research Center

4101 Laporte Ave  
Fort Collins, CO  
80521

An Equal Opportunity  
Employer

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**OPEN DATE:** March 8, 2023

**CLOSING DATE:** March 24, 2023

**POSITION TITLE:** Biological Science Technician (Summer Work Experience)

**# OF VACANCIES:** 1

**TYPE OF POSITION:** Term Appointment with possibility for Benefits, Excepted Service  
Not to exceed 10 Weeks; may be extended

**WORK SCHEDULE:** Full time

**ANNOUNCEMENT #:** 2023-NWRC-SWE-3

**SERIES/GRADE:** GS-404-4

**FULL PERFORMANCE LEVEL:** GS-404-4

**LOCATION:** Oahu, HI  
  
(Relocation expenses will not be paid)

**SALARY:** \$35,044-45,556 per year

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### 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 (include days/months/years worked, work schedule, and grade level if federal)
  - 1) Personal information such as name, address, contact information
  - 2) Education
  - 3) Detailed work experience related to this position as described in the announcement including
    - Work schedule,
    - Hours worked per week,
    - Dates of employment;
    - Title, series, grade (if applicable)

- 4) All supervisors' phone numbers and if they may be contacted
- 5) Other qualifications, such as transcripts (if qualifying on education)
- Transcripts (if qualifying on education)
- DD-214 (Member 4 copy), if applicable for Veteran's Preference
- VA letter required if claiming disabled Veteran's 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:

**CONTACT OFFICE:**

Steven C. Hess, Ph.D.  
Supervisory Research Biologist  
USDA-APHIS-WS National Wildlife Research Center  
Hawaii Field Station  
210 Amaulu Road  
Hilo, HI 96720  
808 932-4751 (o)  
808 987-5121 (c)  
[steven.hess@usda.gov](mailto:steven.hess@usda.gov)

The position is with the National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC), Hawaii Field Station located in Hilo, HI. This Field Station's primary research emphasis is identifying, evaluating, and developing methods to manage invasive species impacts to agriculture in Hawaii. This position will assist with field trials under an Experimental Use Permit for the registration of a toxic bait for mongooses taking place on Oahu this summer.

**DUTIES:**

- May be required to use chemical immobilization and euthanasia drugs to capture and handle wildlife under the general guidance of a higher-graded or more experienced employee.
- Enters data into established database/system of record. Uses data to prepare and submit routine reports regarding daily, weekly or monthly activities, observations, events.
- 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.

- Must be familiar with a limited range of various threatened and endangered species, and their habitats, which are or may be affected by program activities within area of jurisdiction.
- Complies with restrictions and mitigation measures established through consultation with relevant Federal and State agencies.
- Demonstrates a respect for safety in all operations, including the operation of motor vehicles, control devices and materials, and equipment.
- Conducts all operations using approved safety procedures and in accordance with local, State and Federal laws and regulations, and USDA, APHIS, and WS policies.
- Identifies safety-related opportunities and challenges and communicates them to the supervisor.
- May assist WS research efforts by participating in field tests of proposed damage control materials, devices or methods or providing biological or other specimens.

#### **MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

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

#### **QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:**

##### **For the GS-4 Grade Level:**

Applicants must have 6 months of general experience and 6 months of specialized experience (equivalent to the GS-03 level) that may have been obtained in the private or public (local, county, state, Federal) sectors which demonstrates:

- Experience with telemetry, GPS, and camera traps which are requirements for Experimental Use Permit (EUP) trials
- A working knowledge of animal/wildlife handling, an exposure to laboratory procedures, and the ability to communicate with co-workers and supervisors
- Demonstrated ability to collect data in a field, lab, or classroom setting.

**Education Substitution at the GS-4 Grade Level:** 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, or mathematics. At least 6 semester hours of courses must be in wildlife.

**OR**

##### **Combination of Education and Experience at the GS-4 Grade Level:**

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.

#### **HOW YOU WILL BE EVALUATED**

Applicants who meet basic minimum qualifications may be referred to the hiring manager for selection. Qualified candidates eligible for veterans' preference will receive referral and selection priority over non-veterans.

**OTHER REQUIREMENTS: (if applicable to your position)**

- Must obtain or have a valid driver's license. Operation of Government-owned or leased vehicles may be required.
- Direct Deposit: Per Public Law 104-134 all Federal employees are required to have federal payments made by direct deposit to their financial institution.
- Successfully pass the E-Verify employment verification check. To learn more about E-Verify, including your rights and responsibilities, visit <https://www.e-verify.gov/>.
- 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

**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.

**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.**

**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.

**Relocation costs will not be paid for this position.**

**More than one position may be selected from this announcement.**