



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPEN DATE: March 3, 2023

CLOSING DATE: March 10, 2023

POSITION TITLE: Biological Science Technician (Wildlife)

TYPE OF POSITION: Term Appointment not to exceed 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 #: NM-2023-03-Range Rider

SERIES/GRADE: GS-0404-4/5

FULL PERFORMANCE LEVEL: GS-0404-5

NUMBER OF POSITIONS: 1

LOCATIONS: **Catron County, New Mexico**
(Relocation expenses will not be paid)

SALARY: \$34,584 - \$49,009 per year

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Wildlife
Services

An Equal Opportunity
Employer

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:

**New Mexico Wildlife Services
8441 Washington St. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113**

Lisa Selner, District Supervisor
Lisa.A.Selner@usda.gov
(505) 208-3003

Salary Information: First time hires to the Federal government normally start at the lowest rate of the salary range for the grade selected.

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:

SPF 1: Are you an experienced horseman, able to ride over steep, mountainous terrain in close quarters to livestock?

SPF 2: Do you own or have access to at least 2 horses (including tack)?

Negating any of these requirements from your resume will make you ineligible for consideration.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:

FOR THE GS-04 GRADE: 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 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, or mathematics. At least 6 semester hours of courses must be directly related to the position to be filled.

Equivalent combinations of education and experience are qualifying for this grade level.

FOR THE GS-05 GRADE: Applicants must have one year of specialized experience (equivalent to the GS-04 level) that may have been obtained in the private or public (local, county, state, Federal) sectors which demonstrates:

- 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, statistics, entomology, animal husbandry, botany, physics, agriculture, or mathematics. At least 6 semester hours of courses must have been directly related to the position to be filled.

Equivalent combinations of education and experience are qualifying for this grade level.

Combination of Education and Experience at the GS-4/5 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:

- Must obtain or have a valid state driver's license. Operation of Government-owned or leased vehicles is required.
- Must personally own at least two horses (including tack). Horses are not provided by Government.
- Must be proficient in horseback riding skills and have experience riding in mountainous and steep terrain.
- Subject to satisfactory adjudication of background investigation and/or fingerprint check.
- Must demonstrate a respect for safety in all operations, including the operation of motor vehicles, firearms, control devices, and equipment.
- 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)
- 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/>.
- Position is subject to random and applicant drug testing.
- 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.

See this link: <https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/working-in-government/fair-and-transparent/signature-false-statements/>

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.

Relocation costs will not be paid for this position.

More than one position may be selected from this announcement.