



United States Department of Agriculture



Outreach Notice

Interdisciplinary Information Specialist
Social Science Information Specialist GS-0101-7/9
Biological Science Information Specialist GS-0401-7/9
Physical Science Information Specialist GS-1301-7/9
USDA Forest Service – Eastern Region
Midwin National Tallgrass Prairie
Wilmington, Illinois 60481



Positions Anticipated (1): This is an interdisciplinary position that may be filled as either a Social Science Information Specialist (GS-0101), Biological Science Information Specialist (GS-0401), or Physical Science Information Specialist GS-1301 with potential to fill at the GS-7 (Information Specialist advanced trainee) or GS-9 (Information Specialist) pay grades.

Tour of Duty: Permanent Full Time.

Come and be a part of our diverse, dedicated team on the **one and only tallgrass prairie** in the USDA Forest Service! The Midwin National Tallgrass Prairie is an ideal place where you can contribute your skills in spatial and other information/database management as either a **Social**

Science Information Advanced trainee or Specialist (GS-0101-7/9), Biological Science Information Specialist (GS-0401-7/9), or Physical Science Information Specialist (GS-1301-7/9).

The official duty station is Wilmington, Illinois – a small town about 45 miles from Chicago that is nestled amid a confluence of rivers & other natural resource treasures that dot historic Route 66. There are nearby Native American burial grounds, unforgettable nods to the World War II past as well as scores of historical sites tied to the mighty Illinois & Michigan Canal, which paved the way for 19th century expansion.

The Surrounding Area

The area where we are working to restore native Illinois tallgrass prairie is also a delightful tourist attraction for serious antiquing, fishing, hunting and nostalgic car rides along one of America's most beloved stretches of nostalgic highway. You will work just 45 miles southwest of one of the most dynamic, fascinating cities in the world – Chicago. We are near a Metra line that frequently runs hour-long train rides into Chicago. You will be within easy transit of this rich mecca of entertainment & culture that is known everywhere for its legendary world-class museums, jazz and blues clubs and some of the best food in the country, including Chicago's world-renowned signature food items like the deep dish pizza, the Chicago-style hot dog (never with ketchup!) and more. Join us as we make history and build cornerstones for the future here while making the public a part of it.

About Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie

Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie was established in 1996 as part of the conversion of the Joliet Army Ammunition Plant, which is administered by the USDA Forest Service. It is also the largest open space in the six-county Chicago metropolitan area. Midewin is implementing its first Land and Resource Management Plan to accomplish the four purposes outlined in the establishing legislation:

- To manage the land and water resources to conserve and enhance native populations and habitats of fish, wildlife, and plants, including rare and endangered species;
- To provide opportunities for scientific, environmental, and land use education and research;
- To allow continued agricultural use under certain conditions; and
- To provide a variety of recreation opportunities.

At 18,500 acres, Midewin is unusual in size and also in the unusually wide variety of partners who collaborate with us in our restoration goals. We are working with over 275 species of native Illinois prairie plants utilizing a mostly volunteer workforce. For an overview of what's current and planned at Midewin, visit our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/Midewin (website www.fs.fed.us/mntp).

Be a part of the team that is essential to the growth of Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie. As a Interdisciplinary Information Specialist Trainee (Grade 7) the incumbent would work with higher graded specialists to prepare for more independently performing work assignments related to the use of geospatial technology and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for land, natural

resources and ecosystem management. At the full performance level (Grade 9), the Interdisciplinary Information Specialist would work directly with managers and program specialists to determine type, amount and level of information required to develop and analyze ecosystem management alternatives.

Major Duties

The main duties of this position would be to create mapping products for internal and external partners, for public use, and provide a first line of GIS support for staff. This work includes participating on Inter-disciplinary teams in a support role for NEPA projects as well as providing technical support for all local GIS and mobile technology users. At full performance, the incumbent will develop and/or incorporate geospatial analysis techniques for the unit's programs considering current and emerging theories and principles to support decision makers and local natural resource disciplines. The incumbent will support other GIS-users in the Supervisors Office with tasks such as the collecting, editing, and compilation of corporate GIS layers including but not limited to transportation, range, wildlife, recreation, heritage resources, botany and plants, water and soils. It is also anticipated that the incumbent will assist interdisciplinary specialists with establishing a GPS and mobile technology protocol for resource field mapping and data collection. The incumbent would serve as a resource to the unit by assisting to develop data dictionaries, data models, and metadata for multi-disciplinary information and geospatial applications. Incumbent will also convert geospatial information and remote sensing imagery into GIS databases. Assists with the organization and maintenance of resource information and data to facilitate analysis across multiple disciplines including but not limited to recreation, restoration, planning, engineering and fire.

For additional information: Mike Redmer, Midewin Natural Resources and Restoration Team Leader: Michael.Redmer@usda.gov, or by phone at (779) 230-0601.

To respond:

To respond to this outreach, complete the form on page 4 (below) and return to Michael.Redmer@usda.gov by February 11, 2022.



***USDA Forest Service is an Equal Employment
Opportunity Employer
Outreach Response Form***

Position Title/Series/Grade:

Interdisciplinary Social Science Information Advanced Trainee or Specialist (GS-0101-7/9), Biological Science Information Specialist (GS-0401-7/9), or Physical Science Information Specialist (GS-1301-7/9). Location: Wilmington, Illinois 60481

* Please note: the target grade for this position is a GS-07 (Advanced trainee) or GS-09 Specialist. We will use the outreach to determine how best to advertise, which means if we do not feel there will be an adequate candidate pool, then we will expand how it is advertised accordingly (i.e., Forest Service-wide, Government-wide, external).

Please complete and return the outreach notice form to Michael.Redmer@usda.gov by Feb 11, 2022.

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Are you currently a federal employee? ____ YES ____ NO

IF "Yes":


Current Agency and location: _____

Type of Appointment: ____ Permanent ____ Term ____ Temporary

Current title/series/grade: _____

If you are not a current permanent (career or career-conditional) employee, please indicate if you are eligible for appointment under any of the following special authorities:

- Person with Disabilities
- Thirty (30%) or More Disabled Veterans
- Veterans Employment Opportunity Act
- Veterans Recruitment Appointment
- Land Management Workforce Flexibility Act
- Resource Assistant Program eligible
- Public Land Corps eligible
- Pathways-Intern Indefinite, Pathways-Intern NTE or Pathways Recent Graduates
- Pathways-Presidential Management Fellows (PMF)
- Other _____

(Additional Hiring Authorities can be found at:  [HiringAuthorities](#))

Thank you for your interest in employment with the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie

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