**PHEASANTS FOREVER & QUAIL FOREVER**

***The Habitat Organization***

***JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Missouri Native Grassland/Grazing Biologist***

**Grasslands Coordinating Wildlife Biologist**

**Location: St. Clair County, Upper Osage Grasslands Priority Geography**

 (Office space provided at the Osceola, MO USDA Service Center)

**Application Deadline:** May 13, 2022

# Start Date: June 2022

**Overview:** This position is part of a collaborative effort among the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC), USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and Quail Forever (QF) to further the delivery of the native grassland programs in Missouri. This position provides grazing /wildlife technical assistance for associated Farm Bill conservation programs to agriculture producers and landowners in west-central Missouri with a primary focus in priority landscapes. This position will work collaboratively to promote the grazing of native forages by working with local communities, producers, and partner agencies. This position will be an employee of Pheasants Forever, Inc. and Quail Forever with daily instruction and leadership provided by program partners.

**Specific Duties:**

* Provide technical assistance (wildlife biology and grassland/grazing land conservation focus) and guidance to landowners, government agencies, non-government organizations (NGO’s) and others.
* Lead and/or participate in multi-agency efforts to further integrate native forages and wildlife habitat into grazing programs statewide.
* Continued development of programmatic materials for use with grazing schools to further the “grazing with natives” initiative.
* Participate in MDC inter-disciplinary conservation team to enhance grassland system function.
* Provide trainings for MDC, NRCS, and QF staff in grazing strategies for native forages.
* Coordinate integration and application of biological sciences within the conservation programs in cooperation with the local NRCS District Conservationist and others and consistent with the Field Office Technical Guide.
* Complete conservation plans and maps, contracts, applications and other required documentation for Farm Bill conservation programs (i.e. EQIP, ACEP-ALE, CRP) requiring biological and grazing science expertise in cooperation with the partners and in cooperation with the local NRCS District Conservationist.
* Communicate program requirements, complete site visits to determine eligibility and develop contracts/plans for applicants enrolling in USDA conservation programs or other state and local conservation programs for the protection, restoration and enhancement of native grasslands and grazing lands.
* Coordinate, participate and promote grassland management and grazing workshops in west-central Missouri with a primary focus in the priority landscapes
* Lead public outreach and marketing efforts in this targeted geography to garner grassroots support and action.
* Perform other related duties as assigned.

**Required Knowledge. Skills and Abilities:**

* Ability to communicate clearly and effectively with landowners and partner agencies.
* Ability to work independently with little supervision and with diverse clientele.
* Knowledge of grazing science and wildlife ecology including the ability to develop prescribed grazing plans that include wildlife habitat management objectives.
* Able to obtain USDA Security Clearance and NRCS Conservation Planning certification.
* Excellent verbal/written communication and organizational skills.
* A Bachelor of Science Degree in Range Management /Science or Wildlife Biology from an accredited university with an emphasis on developing prescribed grazing systems and course work and/or experience on integrating wildlife management principles into grassland systems is strongly preferred.
* Two years of work with producers and grazing systems involving both native and introduced plant species.
* Knowledge of computer skills is required, and applicant should be familiar with ArcGIS, Word and Excel.
* Ability to use Conservation Desktop would be beneficial.
* Physical ability to; stand and walk for extended periods of time over rough terrain; lift and move material weighing up to 50 pounds; work in all types of weather conditions.
* Valid driver’s license.

**Education and Experience Preferred:** A minimum requirement for this position is a Bachelor of Science Degree in Range Management, Agriculture, Forestry, Wildlife Management or closely related natural resources field with a minimum of two years related experience, or a master’s degree in the same fields listed above. Proven experience working with USDA Farm Bill programs (EQIP, CSP, RCPP, ACEP, and CRP) is preferred. The ideal candidate will exhibit a balance of technical knowledge and interpersonal skills required to develop and conduct sampling protocol for field studies and stakeholder meetings and interviews and implement voluntary conservation programs on private lands. A successful applicant must enjoy working with private landowners to achieve their objectives. Demonstrated interest, training, and experience in both grazing and wildlife is also ideal.

**Starting Salary**: $40,000 - $50,000 (Commensurate with experience and qualifications) + Health Benefits and Retirement Package

**To Apply:** Visit our website at: [www.quailforever.org/jobs](http://www.quailforever.org/jobs)

ONLY ONLINE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED. Please include your cover letter, resume and 3 references as a single Microsoft Word document or PDF file on the Recruitment website.

**Contact**: Andrew White, Missouri State Coordinator, awhite@quailforever.org or (660) 619-1719.

*Pheasants Forever, Inc is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, status as a protected veteran, status as a qualified individual with disability, or any other category that may be protected by law.*