



USDA Forest Service Resource Assistant Program

Position. Wildlife Biologist Tech Intern

Duration. 8 Month Fellowship (32 weeks): Starting July 2024 through February 2025 (dates are dependent upon the start date).

Location. Catahoula RD Kisatchie National Forest, Bentley, LA

Reports To. District Biologist and Wildlife Tech

Job Overview

The wildlife biologist tech Intern will accomplish traditional hands-on wildlife work. Performs a variety of routine and frequently complex tasks involving techniques and practices relating to natural resources, i.e., water, land, food, plants, animals, and soils. Assignments support field projects and program planning activities.

Independently, or as part of a team, performs complex tasks in carrying out recurring wildlife-related projects, such as assisting in developing sampling methods or collecting field data on wildlife and vegetation for use by others in developing a variety of maps, management plans, and environmental analysis reports.

On an individual basis or as part of a crew, constructs or completes habitat projects to establish more desirable food or cover habitat.

Identifies and classifies principal natural resource types in assigned geographic areas. Collects natural resource samples and makes determinations, such as species identification and habitat condition. Keeps accurate records and reports on the full range of activities. Collects and performs a preliminary analysis of biological and physical data, including the inventory of habitat conditions and the needs and population of wildlife.

Responsibilities and Duties:

- Implement monitoring efforts to inform an array of land management actions, Forest Plan monitoring requirements including the Best Management Practices program.
- Help implement restoration and improvement programs in coordination with other wildlife and natural resource specialists.
- Coordinate restoration project design and implementation with cooperator staff.
- Prepare written and oral reports or assessment findings.



- Work with a wide array of partners in all aspects of the position.

Qualifications:

Biologist Skills and Competencies:

In addition to the technical skills you will acquire through your education, you will need to have and/or develop other important skills, such as:

- [Critical thinking](#): Critical thinking is necessary when developing plans that respond to threats to wildlife.
- [Verbal and communication](#): Speaking well allows you to present and clearly explain your findings to others, including those who do not have a scientific background.
- [Writing skills](#): Writing well allows you to clearly present your findings to your professional peers, as well as to government officials and the public.
- [Analytical skills](#): Properly analyzing collected field data can help you to assess habitat quality and [solve problems](#).
- [Interpersonal skills](#): You work in close collaboration with other employees and the public.
- [Time management](#) and [organizational skills](#): You must be able to achieve goals, work independently and meet deadlines, while handling multiple tasks.
- [Computer skills](#): You must have some familiarity with writing and spreadsheet software and be willing to learn GIS mapping software.
- [Physical stamina](#): Work is performed in a forest environment where terrain may be uneven, and/or covered with thick vegetation, and where there is exposure to extremes of weather and temperature. Protective clothing and gear may be required.
- [No fear of heights](#): Climbing on ladders attached to pine trees in excess of 30 feet.
- [Education \(Degree\)](#): biological or natural science, associates or higher.

Minimum Requirements

- US citizenship or permanent residency. RAs must undergo a government background check if selected.
- Participation in US Forest Service Orientation Training scheduled for June 2023.

Direct Hire Authority (DHA)

All RAP interns receive Direct Hire Authority (DHA) at the successful conclusion of their internship. DHA status enables an agency to hire, after public notice is given, any qualified applicant. A DHA expedites hiring by eliminating competitive rating and ranking, veterans' preference, and "rule of three" procedures. For more information, please click [HERE](#).