

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT invites applications for the position of:

# Natural Resource Specialist I-II-III (Wildlife Biologist)

**SALARY:** \$3,337.31 - \$4,554.92 Monthly

**OPENING DATE: 09/01/16** 

CLOSING DATE: 09/22/16 11:59 PM

DIVISION: Wildlife

WORK ADDRESS: TPWD Justin Hurst Wildlife Management Area, 6233 Hwy 36B, Freeport, TX 77541

HIRING CONTACT: Matt Nelson, (979) 323-9553

#### GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Under the direction of the Central Coast Wetlands Ecosystem Project Leader (CCWEP), this position performs professional planning, management and research duties associated with wildlife and habitat resources in the Justin Hurst Wildlife Management Area (WMA). Assists with the public hunting program and habitat enhancement activities on Justin Hurst WMA and other WMA's on the CCWEP. Provides technical assistance to the general public, landowners, land managers, sportsmen, and new constituencies. Disseminates information to the general public through news releases, radio/TV interviews, program presentations, field days, demonstrations, tours and other public outreach and educational opportunities. Performs administrative duties and prepares technical reports, popular articles and professional journal publications. Responsible in assigned area for public relations, public extension/educational/input effort to involve private citizens and organizations in support of Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) programs. Performs additional duties as assigned. Complies with all Agency, Division and Branch rules, regulations and procedures. NOTE: Natural Resources Specialist (NRS) I salary will be commensurate with experience and/or completion of an advanced degree. Current TPWD NRS I-III employees may apply for this position at their current classification and salary. Career Ladder progression is available dependent upon business need.

#### POSTING NUMBER: 16-00712

#### QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES: MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Education:

 Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's degree in Wildlife Science, Wildlife Management, Wildlife Ecology or closely related field in Natural Resources Management. Major coursework from Bachelor's or post-Bachelor's degree programs must include 24 hours minimum in Wildlife/Habitat Conservation, Wildlife/Natural Resources Management and/or Research from accredited college or university.

#### Experience:

- NRS I: No experience required;
- NRS II: Two years relevant experience;
- NRS III: Six years relevant experience.

# Licensure:

- If driving is required, applicant must possess a valid class "C" Texas driver's license;
- Must possess or be able to obtain, within one year of employment, the National Wildfire Coordinating Group's (NWCG) Fire Fighter Type II classification;
- NOTE: Retention of position contingent upon obtaining and maintaining required certification.

### **Physical Requirements:**

- Must be able to pass, within one year of employment, the FFT II moderate duty physical fitness standard (walk 2 miles with a 25 lb. pack in 30 minutes or less) OR the arduous duty physical fitness standard (walk 3 miles with 45 lb. pack in 45 minutes or less);
- Required to conduct (without air sickness) low-level aerial fixed wing aircraft and helicopter surveys. TPWD employees are required to comply with departmental aircraft weight restrictions. Weight limit restrictions prohibit flight with passengers that weigh in excess of 286 pounds. Must maintain less than 287 pounds to accomplish annual low-level aerial surveys.
- NOTE: Retention of position contingent upon meeting and maintaining physical requirements.

# ACCEPTABLE SUBSTITUTIONS:

### Experience:

- NRS II and III ONLY: Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Master's degree in Wildlife Biology, Wildlife Management, Wildlife Ecology or closely related field in Natural Resource Management may substitute for one year of the required experience;
- NRS II and III ONLY: Graduation from an accredited college or university with a PhD in Wildlife Biology, Wildlife Management, Wildlife Ecology or closely related field in Natural Resource Management may substitute for two years of the required experience.

#### PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

#### Licensure:

• Current National Wildfire Coordinating Group's (NWCG) Fire Fighter Type II certification.

# KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

# NRS I:

- Knowledge of the basic life history, ecology, and management needs of wildlife species and their habitats indigenous to Gulf Coast marshes and prairies ecological region; with particular emphasis on waterfowl and wetlands;
- Knowledge of coastal wetland habitats;

# NRS 11-111:

- Knowledge of a NRS I, PLUS:
- Knowledge of issues relating to the management and conservation of coastal marsh habitats;

#### NRS I:

- Skill in effective verbal and written communication;
- Skill in using MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access and Outlook;
- Skill in using statistical analysis programs;
- Skill in operating GIS/GPS systems and their applications;
- Skill in coordinating with the public, universities, department personnel, and other governmental agencies;
- Skill in effective interaction with staff at all levels of the department and other State agencies and organizations;

# NRS II:

- Skills of NRS I, PLUS:
- Skill in collecting scientific data;
- Skill in applying common habitat enhancement techniques;
- Skill in conducting conservation outreach programs;

# NRS III:

- Skills of NRS II, PLUS:
- Skill in supervising projects as assigned;
- Skill in collecting and analyzing scientific data;
- Skill in planning, assigning and/or supervising the work of others;
- Skill in communicating with the general public and agency staff on a broad range of fish, wildlife, and habitat issues;

# NRS I:

- Ability to apply common habitat enhancement techniques;
- Ability to work as a member of a team;
- Ability to conduct low level aerial surveys;
- Ability to conduct conservation outreach programs;
- Ability to collect scientific data;
- Ability to operate field equipment such as airboats, tractors, shredders, ATV's, UTV's, etc.
- Ability to perform manual labor including, lifting supplies and materials up to 50 lbs.;
- Ability to work under moderate supervision with limited latitude for the use of initiative and independent judgment;
- Ability to conduct work activities in accordance with TPWD safety program;

#### NRS II:

- Abilities of NRS I, PLUS:
- Ability to supervise projects as assigned;
- Ability to understand the planning process;
- Ability to analyze scientific data;
- Ability to work under general supervision with moderate latitude for the use of initiative and independent judgment;

# NRS III:

- Abilities of NRS II, PLUS:
- Ability to apply advanced habitat enhancement techniques;
- Ability to train others;
- Ability to work under limited supervision with considerable latitude for the use of initiative and independent judgment.

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: WORKING CONDITIONS:

- Required to work from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday;
- Required to work on holidays, weekends and hours other than 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. as necessary;
- Required to travel 20% with possible overnight stays;
- May be required to operate State vehicle;
- Required to perform work outdoors, occasionally in adverse weather conditions and extreme heat;
- Required to perform manual labor including, lifting supplies and materials up to 50 lbs.;
- Non-smoking environment in State buildings and vehicles.

#### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

In order to be considered for this position, the following information is required:

- Submission of a completed online application;
- Work history experience MUST be completed in the online application;
- A scanned copy of official college transcript(s) issued from the registrar must be attached to the online application (if applicable);
- Applicants must attach a DD214 or other supporting documentation to the online application to claim Veterans Preference.

NOTE: Resume and professional references may be attached to the online application, but not in place of the completed application. A skills test may be conducted at time of interview.

Army 72, 92 Navy Meteorology and Oceanography, Restricted Line (Information Dominance) Coast Guard MST, 790, 72 Marine Corps 68, 88 Air Force 1W, 8E, 9S, 15

http://www.hr.sao.state.tx.us/Compensation/MilitaryCrosswalk/MOSC\_NaturalResources.pdf

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