



## **Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Employment Job Posting**

**AGFC BIOLOGIST/CRAYFISH ECOLOGIST - AGFC BIOLOGIST**

**POSITION NO: 22095953**

### **POSTING INFORMATION:**

Advertisement Opens: Dec. 21, 2021

Advertisement Closes: Feb. 7, 2022

Full Time: Yes

Salary: \$40,535.00 - \$40,535.00 Annually

### **POSTING REQUIREMENTS:**

#### Minimum Education and/or Experience:

The formal education equivalent of a bachelor's degree in biology, zoology, botany, or a related field. OTHER JOB RELATED EDUCATION AND/OR EXPERIENCE MAY BE SUBSTITUTED FOR ALL OR PART OF THESE BASIC REQUIREMENTS, EXCEPT FOR CERTIFICATION OR LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS, UPON APPROVAL OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES CHIEF.

#### Preferred Education and/or Experience:

The formal education equivalent of a Master's Degree or higher in zoology, stream ecology, aquatic ecology or a related field that has completed research on crayfish, or have completed 2 or more years studying crayfish, full time.

#### Knowledge, Abilities, and Skills:

Knowledge of the principles of biology, ecology, and related environmental sciences. Knowledge of game and fish management programs including propagation, cultivation, and harvesting techniques. Knowledge of game and fish laboratory and field survey equipment, techniques, and procedures. Ability to plan, organize, and oversee the work of subordinates. Ability to make public presentations and conduct hunter safety classes. Ability to plan work unit objectives and operational activities and to assign and direct the work of subordinate supervisors. Ability to conduct scientific game and fish surveys and studies.

### Preferred Knowledge, Abilities, and Skills:

A working knowledge of the U.S. Endangered Species Act. Familiarity with the Arkansas Wildlife Action Plan. An understanding of North American crayfish life-histories. Ability to identify crayfish species. Ability to readily identify other Arkansas aquatic taxa in the field. Experience with multiple crayfish sampling methods. Ability to identify and implement conservation actions for species conservation. Knowledge of conservation funding sources: ESA-Section 6, State Wildlife Grants, & Mitigation Funds. Possesses one or more S.C.U.B.A. certifications. Experience with surface supply dive systems. Ability to operate a boat and back a boat trailer. Knowledge of basic boat and trailer maintenance requirements. Ability to clearly convey complex scientific concepts through written, oral, and visual media to diverse stakeholder groups. Experience publishing in scientific literature. Experience with advanced statistical methods and analyzing data in Program R, SAS, or similar statistical software. A working knowledge of Google and Microsoft based programs. AGFC Conservation Ecologists must be self-starters, problem solvers, critical thinkers, and independent operators.

### **POSTING DETAILS:**

#### Position Location:

City: Statewide

Office: Benton Field Office

Division: Fisheries

#### Job Summary:

The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC) Biologist is responsible for supervising wildlife and timber management in a wildlife management area. This position is governed by state and federal laws and agency policy.

#### Typical Functions:

Coordinates and participates in conducting biological surveys and studies of fish and wildlife to determine population growth, propagation rates, and the effect of environmental and human conditions on particular species. Participates in developing wildlife management area recommendations and the development of the five-year plan for future Game and Fish activities and acquisitions. Approves billings and projects expenditures and assists supervisor in preparing the district budget. Conducts hunter safety classes or public meetings on new and proposed rules and regulations. Writes news releases on activities in the district. Performs other duties as assigned.

#### Specific Duties and Responsibilities:

The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC) Crayfish Ecologist is responsible for identifying, coordinating and implementing conservation actions to help restore declining crayfish populations to self-sustaining levels. The AGFC Aquatic Ecology Program consists of four staff members with statewide responsibility for the conservation of all species within their respective taxon groups. Assisting with conservation projects managed by other Ecologists is required to achieve the greater conservation mission of the AGFC. Familiarity with Arkansas's diverse aquatic fauna is an important skill for all members of this team. Ecologists must work with Federal, State, NGO, and other AGFC personnel to identify and prioritize critical conservation actions for their species groups, and communicate these needs to administrators, landowners, and the public. This position requires good written and verbal communication skills to inform the public, social media posts, detailed project plans, and agency reports. This position represents the agency on internal and external committees to further the conservation goals and objectives of the AGFC.

Certificates, Licenses, or Registrations:

A salary differential of 6% is available for employees that are Certified Fisheries Professionals through the American Fisheries Society.

Must possess a valid Arkansas driver's license.

Special Job Dimensions:

Frequent in-state travel and field work with exposure to inclement weather is required.

Occasional exposure to hunters and dangerous animals may be required.

This position often requires working weekends, long hours, and/or in poor weather conditions.

Other Specific Information:

For additional information, please contact Eric Brinkman, Assistant Chief of Aquatic Conservation at [eric.brinkman@agfc.ar.gov](mailto:eric.brinkman@agfc.ar.gov)

All applicants are subject to a criminal background check.

As an equal opportunity employer, the Commission will make any reasonable accommodations necessary to ensure equal employment opportunities.