



Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Employment Job Posting

FISHERIES DISTRICT BIOLOGIST - AGFC BIOLOGIST SPECIALIST

POSITION NO: 22096110

POSTING INFORMATION:

Advertisement Opens: Aug. 10, 2022

Advertisement Closes: March 1, 2023

Full Time: Yes

Salary: \$45,274.00 - \$45,274.00 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 plus two years of experience in wildlife management 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:

A Master's degree in Fisheries Management or a related field.

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 management laboratory and field survey equipment, techniques, and procedures. Knowledge of supervisory practices and procedures. Ability to plan, organize, and oversee the work of subordinates. Ability to make public presentations. Ability to plan work unit objectives and operational activities and assign and direct the work of subordinate supervisors. Ability to conduct scientific game and fish survey and studies, analyze and evaluate collected data, and prepare written narrative reports of findings. Ability to direct, coordinate, and maintain wildlife management programs.

Preferred Knowledge, Abilities, and Skills:

Knowledge of freshwater fish, fisheries, fish population dynamics, and fish management techniques. Knowledge of freshwater aquatic plants and related management techniques. Skill in writing (both technical and popular articles). Skill in the maintenance and operation of boats, outboard motors, fish sampling equipment, etc. Skill in the use of word processing, spreadsheet, database, data analysis, fish population analysis software programs, etc. Ability to exercise sound judgment and reasoning in decision making and problem solving. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with public, stakeholders, and Arkansas Game and Fish Commission staff. Ability to implement project management techniques and practices (scheduling/task management) to ensure completion of programs and projects in an effective and timely manner. Ability to write and edit technical reports in a timely manner. Ability to professionally explain Project, Division, and Agency programs, policies, and procedures to the public and other stakeholders. Ability to design and conduct biological studies/surveys.

POSTING DETAILS:

Position Location:

City: Monticello

Office: Monticello Regional Office

Division: Fisheries

Job Summary:

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

Typical Functions:

Plans and conducts various biological surveys to investigate population, habitat, and ecology of game and fish species and conducts studies of game and fish propagation, cultivation, and harvest. Analyzes and evaluates survey and sampling data and writes reports describing the results of the data and makes recommendations on game and fish populations. Directs the development of various wildlife management areas or fish propagation and cultivation and treatment plans based on district management plans. Assists supervisor with districts' annual budgetary projections, prepares various reports and purchase orders, requisitions for equipment, supplies, and parts, and prepares monthly activity reports. Makes presentations to civic groups, schools, and clubs, and conducts public meetings to explain new and/or proposed rules and regulations and/or to hear complaints about wildlife management. Writes articles for news releases on game and fish activities in district. Assists supervisor in the development of game and fish management plans and proposals to expand or improve management areas. Performs other duties as assigned.

Specific Duties and Responsibilities:

As a Fisheries Management Biologist for the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, you will join a highly-trained, progressive team of Fisheries Scientists working to improve conservation and management of aquatic resources in Arkansas. You will receive outstanding training and competitive pay and benefits. Fisheries Management Biologists (AGFC Biologist Specialists) are responsible for fisheries management activities in a district, with many opportunities to work on projects across the state. Job duties include: standardized fish population surveys, onsite and offsite angler surveys, stakeholder engagement, fish habitat improvement projects including nuisance aquatic vegetation control, analysis of survey data, preparation of annual fishery management reports, assist with the development of management recommendations for district waters, development and execution of an independent research project, and working with other agencies and elected officials on improving fisheries resources.

This position is located in Southeast Arkansas, a region with abundant aquatic resources. With public waterbodies ranging from small community ponds to the Lower Mississippi River, this district has a variety of fisheries on which to work. Sportfish management opportunities include some of the top trophy Largemouth Bass lakes in the state, as well as oxbow lakes known for high numbers of large crappie. Commercial fisheries for Paddlefish, sturgeon, catfish, and buffalo; along with species conservation work on Alligator Gar and American Eel makes for a diverse set of challenges for the fisheries team that works in this part of the state. This position works under the supervision of the District Fisheries Supervisor out of the AGFC Monticello Regional Office.

Certificates, Licenses, or Registrations:

Must possess a valid Arkansas driver's license.

Successful candidates possessing Certified Fisheries Professional status with the American Fisheries Society are eligible for a 6% salary increase.

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.

Other Specific Information:

All applicants are subjected to a criminal background check.

For additional information on this position, please contact Jason Olive, Chief of Fisheries Management at jason.olive@agfc.ar.gov.

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