ECOLOGICAL SERVICES STATEWIDE ECOLOGIST – Position #K0233810

If you’re looking for a rewarding career, working alongside dedicated colleagues in a conservation agency, you’ll feel right at home with the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP). As a member of the KDWP team, you’ll work together to conserve Kansas wildlife and its habitats, while also ensuring our citizens enjoy and appreciate the state’s diverse natural resources.

We welcome applicants with diverse backgrounds and experience because a diverse workforce makes us stronger. Please take a moment to read the job announcement below and consider the possibilities.

This unclassified, full-time position in the Ecological Services Division located in the Pratt Operations Office; and is directly supervised by Jordan Hofmeier, Ecological Services Assistant Director.

As mandated by statute, KDWP is responsible for administering the Kansas Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Act. To further KDWP’s mission, the incumbent will:

- Conduct ecological reviews and prepare official agency responses for development projects impacting fish and wildlife resources;
- Formulate ecological recommendations to prevent, minimize, or mitigate habitat destruction or degradation with emphasis on threatened and endangered species and their critical habitats;
- Act as the department lead for the ecological review of development projects with a specific focus on projects that affect stream and wetland habitats;
- Serve on the Interagency Review Team with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other regulatory agencies to provide technical expertise on stream and wetland mitigation sites;
- Coordinate/conduct field studies to evaluate habitat conditions and population status of nongame and at-risk species;
- Provide professional input related to aquatic and terrestrial resources on interdivisional projects, programs, and special task forces as needed and will provide recommendations on federal/state/local laws, regulations, and policies pertaining to threatened and endangered species, habitat loss/fragmentation, and other topics related to natural resources;
- Coordinate grants and assist with review of species recovery plans as mandated by Kansas law;
- Work with USFWS and state agency staff on Species Status Assessments/federal ESA listings.

**BENEFITS:** Beginning hourly wage, $33.69/hour; immediate group health and life insurance coverage; retirement; optional deferred compensation, dental and vision options; holidays; and sick, vacation, and parental leave.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:** Bachelor’s degree in fisheries science/management or wildlife science/management. Prefer candidates with a minimum of a Master’s degree in ecology, wildlife biology, or wildlife management or a bachelor’s degree in any of the above disciplines AND 2 years’ experience with stream and wetland ecology, environmental regulations, habitat restoration, and wildlife research is desirable. However, professional applicants with broad ecological and/or regulatory experience will also be considered. The successful candidate must pass a background check and posses and maintain a valid driver’s license.
HOW TO APPLY: Go to the State Employment Center at https://admin.ks.gov/services/state-employment-center and follow the directions below:

- Click in the middle of the page under the Sunflower. From there either Sign into your existing account or Register for a new account.
- Review and complete your contact information on the My Contact Information page. Please make sure to include your email address.
- Upload documents listed in the Required Documents section of this job posting to the appropriate location.
- Complete and Submit your application.
- Check your email and My Job Notifications for written communications from the Recruiter.
  - Email - the email listed on the Careers>My Contact Information page.
  - Notifications - view the Careers>My Job Notifications page

The following are the required items to apply:

1) a letter of interest
2) a detailed resume; including a valid e-mail address
3) transcript material, if applicable, (copies of official transcripts or unofficial student copies are acceptable as long as degree is conferred)
4) Employment application – this is generated from the information which is input into the State Employment Center
5) an Authorization to Release Information form** (this can be found at the following website): https://www.ksoutdoors.com/news/KDWP-Info/Jobs/Employment-Application-Additional-Info

**Please note, this form must either be witnessed and signed by a Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks employee or signed in front of and notarized by a notary public. We reserve the right to conduct a background check on all qualified applicants.

Incomplete applications will not be considered. A complete application packet must be submitted for each position. We no longer make copies of previous applications. Submitted application materials will be reviewed in Pratt to assure that the position minimum requirements are met, and those meeting the minimum requirements will be forwarded to the respective division for interview selection.

Applicants are notified whether or not they are selected to interview. The interview is generally a one-time, panel interview consisting of position-specific questions for all applicants (same questions for each applicant), with the selection being made after all candidate interviews are completed.

Veterans' Preference Eligible (VPE): Former military personnel or their spouse that have been verified as a “veteran” under K.S.A. 73-201 will receive an interview if they meet the minimum requirements of the position. The veterans’ preference laws do not guarantee the veteran a job. Positions are filled with the best qualified candidate as determined by the appointing authority. Additional VPE information can be found at https://admin.ks.gov/services/state-employment-center/veterans. Applicants claiming veterans’ preference for the first time must mail a copy of your DD-214 to the Office of Personnel Services, 900 SW Jackson, Room 401-N, Topeka KS 66612, or FAX to 785/291-3715.

DEADLINE TO APPLY – July 14, 2023

The State of Kansas is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We value diversity, equity, and inclusion as essential elements that create and foster a welcoming workplace. All qualified persons will be considered for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, political affiliation, disability or any other factor unrelated to the essential functions of the job.

If you wish to identify yourself as a qualified person with a disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act and would like to request an accommodation, please address the request to the recruiter.