

Job Responsibilities

This is an exciting opportunity to make a significant contribution to conservation of red-cockaded-woodpeckers (RCW) in South Carolina. The purpose of this position is to serve as the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) lead in coordination of RCW recovery efforts on private lands and SCDNR properties. This position is responsible for RCW monitoring and enhancement projects and coordinating the SC RCW Safe Harbor program. Duties include planning and implementing projects on state lands, administering the Safe Harbor program, coordinating with and providing technical assistance to private landowners while administering projects on Safe Harbor lands, supervising staff, and coordinating and assisting with federal lands to recover populations in South Carolina. Recovery efforts include disseminating information to the general public through program presentations, preparing technical reports, and articles and professional journal publications. This position is best suited to an organized highly motivated self-starter with RCW experience.

Red-cockaded woodpecker monitoring

- Design and implement RCW monitoring and recovery projects.
- Assess compartment level and stand level management needs.
- Design vegetation management descriptions.
- Supervise and assist with nest productivity, evacuation of artificial cavities, banding of juvenile and adult birds.
- Conduct annual RCW population census.
- Compile data on RCW cluster habitat management and submit annual report.
- Represent SCDNR on enforcement and permitting issues and other special situations as required.
- Coordinate, train and supervise personnel to collect data as needed.

Safe Harbor

- Evaluate and process requests from landowners for RCW Safe Harbor agreements.
- Negotiate Safe Harbor agreement terms with landowners.
- Conduct site visits to ensure landowners are completing required habitat management as listed in their RCW safe harbor agreement.
- Conduct annual RCW cluster activity status on RCW Safe Harbor properties and submit annual report.
- Provide technical support to landowners.
- Coordinate, train and supervise personnel to collect data as needed.

Other

- Develop and present outreach materials to educate landowners about the RCW Safe Harbor program.
- Contribute articles, photographs and short stories about RCW for use in press releases and social media.
- Develop, maintain and update the content of the SCDNR RCW web site.
- Maintain all RCW databases including RCW populations and Safe Harbor agreements using excel, word and GIS.

- Prepare and submit information for USFWS Recovery annual report. Prepare and submit SCDNR monthly and annual reports.
- Identify RCW population recovery needs and develop and manage grant writing, budgets and annual reports.
- Respond to requests for data and program status from different stakeholder groups.
- Review SCDNR scientific collection permits related to RCW activities in South Carolina.
- Perform or secure maintenance on vehicles and all field equipment.

Minimum and Additional Requirements

A master's degree in biology, wildlife ecology and/or natural resources management (or equivalent); or a bachelor's degree in related area and four years of experience in wildlife management or research programs.

Preferred Qualifications

- Certification in banding endangered RCW adults and nestlings, extracting nestlings from nest cavities, resighting color bands and use of Swedish ladders and climbing harness.
- Knowledge of RCW biology and management.
- Knowledge of federal and state laws and regulatory procedures pertaining to RCW recover and management.
- Familiarity with longleaf pine ecosystem and general southeast forest management practices.
- Ability to communicate effectively in writing and verbally with peers and landowners on technical and non-technical subjects.
- Ability to work with specialized equipment including off-road vehicles, chainsaws and Swedish ladders and peepers.
- Familiarity with bird identification and ecology.
- Working knowledge of GIS and GPS data management.
- Ability to supervise staff.
- Ability to endure long hours in harsh environmental conditions including extreme heat and exposure to insects.
- Must be willing to work non-standard hours with frequent, sometimes overnight, travel.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently, with minimal supervision.
- Demonstrated ability to work with multiple stakeholder groups.
- Must be physically able to climb up to 40 ft and lift and carry 40 lbs. while walking up to 4 miles carrying field supplies and day pack.

Salary: \$43,015-\$58,086

Applications will be accepted from March 9-31 on the South Carolina State Job Opportunities website

[https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/sc?department\[0\]=Department%20of%20Natural%20Resources&sort=PositionTitle%7CAscending](https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/sc?department[0]=Department%20of%20Natural%20Resources&sort=PositionTitle%7CAscending).