



## Biological Science Technician (Private Lands)

### Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Summer-Fall 2022

**Job Description:** The Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex will be hiring a single seasonal field technician as part of the Partner's for Fish and Wildlife Program staff stationed at the complex. We expect to hire at the **GS-0404-6 Biological Science Technician (Private Lands)** level.

Working beyond refuge boundaries with private landowners allows the Service to more effectively deliver the mission of conserving our nation's natural heritage legacy.

**Pay Rate:** Full time; \$20.64/hr (GS-6)

**Start Date:** Approx. 7/4/2022

**Duration:** up to 26 weeks guaranteed.

**Primary Duties:** Working closely with other Partner's Program staff to implement riparian, prairie, marsh, and oak habitat restoration on private lands. Primary emphasis is on restoration of habitats supporting migratory bird species and threatened and endangered species. Specific work may include controlling invasive weeds, communications with private landowners, contractors, and other conservation agency partners, planting (herbaceous and woody species), and mechanized habitat restoration (e.g. mowing).



**Location(s):** Baskett Slough NWR (Dallas, OR). Technician will work on private lands enrolled in the Partner's for Fish and Wildlife Program throughout the Willamette Valley as needed.

#### **Qualifications:**

##### **For GS-06:**

Applicants must meet one of the following to qualify for the GS-06 level:  
One year of specialized experience equivalent to at least the GS-05 level in the Federal service that is in or related to the duties of this position. Specialized experience may include work as a technician or aid in a research activity or control program work, nursery work that required the growing and maintenance of plants in a controlled environment, or work comparable to that with a large dairy farm where production records, animal environment, and sanitary conditions were kept in accordance with modern dairy practice if it equipped the applicant with the knowledge, skills and abilities to perform successfully the duties of this position. Farming experience that was not performed in a controlled environment, or experience as a laborer who was not

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responsible for planning and scheduling his/her own work, but only performed assigned tasks, would not qualify as specialized experience.

Examples of GS-05 level assignments include: 1) collecting insect and disease samples and assisting in the identification & damage assessment of any problems they have caused; compiling and summarizing data from surveys, biological evaluations, and pilot tests; and running routine computer programs and checking resulting data for inconsistencies; 2) assembling basic information on fish and/or wildlife populations such as habitat use, sex and age structure, seasonal movement and harvest characteristics; 3) assuming responsibility for limited projects such as maintaining a network of seasonal traps; 4) collecting anatomical materials and making preliminary assessments of such things as habitat preference and population dynamics. For examples 1-4, a designated authority made continuing assignments by initially indicating the amount of work expected, general explanation of what is to be done, advice on the location of reference material or samples, and the nature of the limits applicable to the assignments. Recurring assignments were carried out independently, within established procedures and without specific instructions. New, difficult or unusual work assignments were given with specific instructions.

\*\*OR applicants may substitute successful completion of 1 year of appropriate graduate level education (18 semester hours, 27 quarter hours or the equivalent) in biology, chemistry, statistics, entomology, animal husbandry, botany, physics, agriculture, or mathematics or other field of study directly related to the work of this position for the required 1 year of specialized experience if it provided the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to perform the work of this position.

\*\*OR applicants may substitute a combination of appropriate specialized experience (as described above) and appropriate graduate level education (as described above) that is beyond the first 1/2 year of progressive graduate study to meet the qualification requirements.

#### **Physical Requirements:**

- Ability to carry a 4-gal backpack sprayer over several acres per day in sometimes rough and hilly terrain
- Tolerance of sun exposure for long periods
- Tolerance of allergen exposure (grass and weed pollen) and poison oak

#### **Work Schedule:** 80 hours / 2-week pay period

- The Service offers different tour of duty options including flex scheduling.
- Work occasionally entails a shifted daily schedule, with early morning start times

#### **Conditions of Employment:**

- U.S. citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident
- As a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service employee, must pass a background investigation and complete all necessary security and on-boarding procedures
- Must have a valid Driver's license by the Start Date
- Ability to drive pickup trucks (usually 4x4)
  - After reporting, technicians will be required to pass an online Defensive Driver's training course as part of the orientation process
- Will be required to wear a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service uniform

**Equipment:**

- All required field gear and personal protective equipment will be provided
- USFWS work vehicles will be assigned for on-refuge work and between-refuge travel

**Housing:** Not available

**How to Apply:**

NOTE: These seasonal technician positions are being hired under a Department of Interior non-competitive hiring authority, and are **not** being advertised through *USAJOBS*.

Please submit a single PDF of your resume, cover letter, and transcripts, including at least 2 professional work references to the contact email below. Please note the open period for this announcement is only from May 27 through May 31.

**Applications for this position will be accepted starting immediately**, and selections will be made from qualified candidates as applications are processed.

Specific questions about the positions or application process should be directed to:

Chris Seal, Private Lands Biologist  
Willamette Valley NWR Complex  
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