

NWTF Forester – Nebraska

Application Deadline: Open till closed

The National Wild Turkey Federation is seeking qualified candidates for a forester to be located in northwest Nebraska and housed in the United States Forest Service (FS) Chadron Supervisor's Office. The position is the result of an ongoing cooperative effort with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC). The candidate will be responsible for implementing and promoting forest management on state, federal, and private lands in the Pine Ridge and Wildcat Hills areas in Nebraska. The position is a full-time, term-limited position.

Duties:

- Work cooperatively with the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission, U.S. Forest Service, and Nebraska Forest Service on landscape-scale forest restoration initiatives & efforts
- Address significant forest health issues affecting important habitat for wild turkeys and other wildlife on public and private lands in pine and riparian ecosystems of Western Nebraska
- Garner additional funding for NWTF conservation programs within the region through grants, corporate partnerships and other sources as identified
- Demonstrate innovative forest management techniques and funding sources to inform landowners and agency partners through tours, field days and workshops
- Prepare forest management project contracts; providing forest management/restoration specifications and prescriptions for thinning, slash treatments, and other forest management activities.
- Provide regular, on-site contract coordination and oversight to ensure prescriptions and objectives are met, including project layout (e.g. marking project boundaries, marking trees for removal, etc.)
- Provide guidance and prepare plans for re-seeding areas following thinning projects and other soil disturbances, as well as the treatment of noxious weeds before and after forest thinnings on WMAs
- Develop prescribed burning plans
- Assist NGPC staff in conducting local forest management projects (e.g. pruning, regeneration treatments, prescribed burns, slash management on WMAs)
- Conduct forest inventory (stand mapping and examinations, insect and disease monitoring) on WMAs and FS lands, as well as private lands as needed: includes locating & marking wild turkey roosts prior to thinning
- Work collaboratively with FS staff on their landscape restoration project in the vicinity of HWY 385, to include project design, implementation and oversight in cooperation with FS staff
- Coordinate & oversee treatment of slash piles, clean-up of downfall, maintenance of fire access & service roads
- Ensure compliance with FWS Programmatic Agreement (Environmental Review) including pre-thinning surveys for T&E Species, raptor nests, Tier 1&2 species, cavity trees, etc.
- Assist with wildfire suppression on WMAs, as needed, including maintenance of firefighting equipment
- Work with Rural Volunteer Fire Departments in developing wildfire suppression plans and maps for individual WMAs, including mapping all WMA fire access roads and trails
- Other duties as assigned pursuant to assisting NGPC staff with management efforts in the area

Qualifications:

- Demonstrated knowledge of forestry and wildlife biology
- Strong organizational skills and capability to work independently with little direct supervision
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Applicants must possess a Bachelor's degree in Forestry, or other natural resource degree with a forestry emphasis (*Applicants with a Master's degree in forestry or wildlife management are preferred.*)
- Demonstrated proficiency using Microsoft Office Suite, including Excel, Word, PowerPoint and Outlook

Preferred candidates will have forest management experience in ponderosa pine ecosystems, contract administration, knowledge of wild turkeys or other wildlife and their habitat requirements, ArcGIS skills, and experience with development and administration of grants. Position will require some overnight travel. Excellent health and retirement benefits package. Salary is commensurate with experience. Equal Employment/Affirmative Action/Drug-free workplace employer. Apply online at <http://www.nwtf.org/jobs>.