

ESS STATEWIDE BIOLOGIST -- Position #K0227769

This unclassified, full-time position is located in the Ecological Services Section in the Pratt Operations Office; and is directly supervised by Chris Berens, Ecological Services Section Chief.

This unclassified, full time position is responsible for providing specialized, professional, and administrative work on a statewide basis. As mandated by statute, KDWP is responsible for administering the Kansas Nongame and Endangered Species Act. This position reviews and prepares official agency responses for development projects impacting fish and wildlife resources; formulates ecological recommendations to prevent, minimize, or mitigate habitat destruction or degradation with emphasis on threatened and endangered species. In particular this position reviews all KDOT projects (and other federal, state, private industry projects as well) submitted to the department for potential impact to critical habitats for Kansas threatened and endangered species.

In addition to project reviews, this position coordinates and conducts field investigations to evaluate habitat conditions, presence/absence and population status of nongame and at-risk species. The position will also 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, and local laws, regulations and policies pertaining to threatened and endangered species, habitat loss/fragmentation, and other topics related to natural resources. The position also coordinates federal grant projects and helps to review species recovery plans that are also mandated by Kansas law. The position also works directly with USFWS and other state agency staff on Species Status Assessments for the federal ESA listing process.

BENEFITS: Beginning hourly wage, \$26.40; group health and life insurance; retirement; optional deferred compensation, dental and vision options; holidays; and sick, vacation, and parental leave.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: Bachelor's degree in environmental, agricultural or natural sciences/resources and one year of experience in a field of environmental sciences/agricultural sciences or natural sciences/resources. Additional experience in the biological sciences, agricultural sciences, physical sciences, natural sciences/resources, mathematics or engineering may be substituted for the required education as determined relevant by the agency. 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 working in a natural resources field. Entry-level training in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) is strongly preferred. The successful candidate must pass a background check and possess 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 in** to 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/cover letter
- 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 input into the system
- 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> and,

***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.*

6) Kansas Tax Clearance Certificate

Kansas Tax Clearance Certificate: Each applicant applying for a State of Kansas job vacancy must obtain a State Tax Clearance Certificate by accessing the Kansas Department of Revenue’s website at <https://www.ksrevenue.org/taxclearance.html>. A **Tax Clearance** is a comprehensive tax account review to determine and ensure that an individual’s account is compliant with all primary Kansas Tax Laws. Applicants are responsible for submitting their certificate with all other application materials to the hiring agency. This is in accordance with Executive Order 2004-03.

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 – October 29, 2021

The Americans with Disabilities Act ensures your right to reasonable accommodations during the employment process—individuals with disabilities are encouraged to contact the agency recruiter if reasonable accommodations are needed for any part of the application or hiring process. Equal Opportunity Employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. Veteran’s Preference Eligible.