



Ruffed Grouse Society/American Woodcock Society Regional Wildlife Biologist and Forest Wildlife Specialist Coordinator

Supervisor: Director of Conservation

Location: Work from home, in the state of Wisconsin

Region: Western Great Lakes (Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois)

Posting Open Date: 14 March 2018

Posting Close Date: 11 April 2018

About RGS/AWS: Established in 1961, the Ruffed Grouse Society/American Woodcock Society (RGS/AWS) is North America's foremost conservation organization dedicated to preserving our sporting traditions by creating healthy forest habitat for ruffed grouse, American woodcock and other wildlife. As a financially healthy, accountable, and transparent organization, RGS/AWS holds designation as a Charity Navigator Four-Star charity and Better Business Bureau accreditation.

RGS/AWS has accomplished:

- Over 35% membership increase since 2011
- Annual investment of nearly \$5 million in habitat improvement projects
- Development of a national full-time Regional Wildlife Biologist team for program delivery
- Establishment of a policy presence at local, state, and federal levels

More information on RGS/AWS, its mission, management projects, and membership can be found on the web at: www.RuffedGrouseSociety.org.

Position Summary: RGS/AWS seeks to add a Western Great Lakes Regional Wildlife Biologist and Forest Wildlife Specialist (FWS) Coordinator position to our Regional Wildlife Biologist team. This position will provide leadership to RGS/AWS efforts to enhance early successional forest habitat on public and private forestlands and to provide for thriving ruffed grouse and American woodcock populations within the Western Great Lakes region. This position will also coordinate the organization's two existing FWS positions – both of whom support private land forest habitat development in Wisconsin – and assist other staff members with engaging state Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) offices and other partners regarding potential additional FWS positions in other states. This individual will work effectively with RGS/AWS chapters, members, volunteers, governmental agency personnel, and the general public to implement a wide range of programs and projects to develop critical habitat utilizing sound scientific management principles. This position will assist in broadening public understanding of the role of forest management in forest wildlife conservation.

Basic Requirements: Must have demonstrable knowledge of wildlife and forest management tools and techniques related to the growth and maintenance of ruffed grouse and American woodcock habitats and populations. Must have excellent written and verbal communication skills and display attention to detail. Must exhibit computer proficiency in WORD, EXCEL, OUTLOOK and other applications as required. Must display ability to take initiative and work independently, and be capable of working closely and effectively with RGS/AWS members and donors. Must demonstrate enthusiastic support for the RGS/AWS mission to promote healthy forests, abundant wildlife, and sporting traditions. Prior experience working for or with NRCS programs is highly desirable.

Responsibilities:

- Understand and incorporate the RGS/AWS mission, goals and objectives in all plans and projects
- Work directly with federal, state and local resource management agencies, representatives of the forest products industry, nonindustrial private forest landowners and other interested parties to promote the development and enhancement of early successional wildlife habitats on public and private forest lands
- Coordinate existing FWS positions in Wisconsin and assist other RGS/AWS staff with engaging state NRCS offices and other partners regarding the potential to develop additional FWS positions in other states
- Develop and successfully administer grants, including assisting with Minnesota Outdoor Heritage Grants, in coordination with other conservation organizations and County, State and Federal agencies
- Promote RGS/AWS interests and coordinate member involvement in land management planning processes for public forest lands, and statutory/regulatory development affecting forest management on public and private forest lands
- Coordinate with appropriate staff to ensure that all outreach work is effectively planned and implemented
- Utilize all appropriate media to increase public awareness of the ecological and social benefits of forest wildlife habitat management
- Participate on relevant local, regional or national boards or in other similar capacities to promote or otherwise further the mission of RGS/AWS when approved by supervisor
- Provide timely and accurate analysis of all programs and reports to the supervisor and the rest of the organization as required
- Participate in regular team meetings to address organizational issues and collaborate on organizational initiatives
- Contribute to the development of plans and strategies and the resolution of operational issues together with other teams

Qualifications and key abilities:

- **Education:** Master's degree in Wildlife Ecology or related field of study or a Bachelor's degree with substantial experience, with preference for an extensive background in forest wildlife ecology and forest management.
- **Grant Writing:** Demonstrated success in grant writing.
- **Member Relations/Outreach:** Proven success in creating outreach projects.
- **Project Leadership:** Experience in planning, leading, and managing projects and initiatives, including coordinating with peers and volunteers to achieve desired outcomes, and tracking and reporting on progress to the supervisor.

- **Communications:** Skilled in creating powerful, compelling written and oral communications for engaging groups and individuals with the RGS/AWS mission. Ability to convey complex ideas through brief, simple materials. Experience and credibility when presenting materials to external audiences.
- **Influencing:** Gets others to accept ideas by using convincing arguments, creates a win-win situation and responds appropriately to key stakeholders.
- **Collaboration:** Effective at working with others to reach common goals and objectives.
- **Relationship Building:** Skilled at establishing and cultivating strong relationships with peers, across different levels of the organization and externally.
- **Over-night Travel:** Ability for over-night travel (60 to 80 nights per year).

To apply:

Please send a cover letter and resume combined into a single .pdf file by **11 April 2018** to:
Brent Rudolph, Ruffed Grouse Society and American Woodcock Society
BrentR@RuffedGrouseSociety.org