



Wildlife Research Specialist with the Iowa DNR

Wildlife Management Institute (WMI) is partnering with the Iowa DNR to hire a Wildlife Research Specialist to assist the Wildlife Research Section. The position will be located in southeast Iowa and will serve as the primary field coordinator for an ongoing wild turkey research project within the forest wildlife program. This position will have a diverse array of responsibilities including both fieldwork and quantitative analysis. The successful candidate is expected to possess quantitative and spatial analysis skills to produce biological reports and potentially manuscripts of peer-review published quality. This is a limited term position that may be extended up to 3 years. The successful candidate will be a WMI employee, but stationed within the Iowa DNR's Research Section with daily supervision by Iowa DNR staff. Starting salary is \$35,961 per year, based on education and experience. The position will be eligible for WMI 401(k) retirement benefits and WMI will provide workers' compensation, general liability protection, professional liability protection and unemployment insurance benefits. The position does not include health insurance benefits.

Minimum Qualifications

- Must possess a valid driver's license with a clean driving record
- A BS in Wildlife Ecology or a related field (MS preferred)
- A positive attitude and a passion for wildlife conservation
- Ability to work successfully in both extreme field conditions and office settings
- Possess a strong work ethic

Desired Skills

- Experience with trapping, handling and/or tracking wild turkeys
- Experience working with large datasets and database programs (e.g., Microsoft Access)
- Experience conducting wildlife field surveys and research
- Experience tracking wild animals using radio telemetry equipment
- Experience with data analysis and analysis programs, particularly Program R
- Experience with ArcGIS mapping and analysis capabilities
- Strong organization and communication skills
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Ability to coordinate field work with DNR permanent and seasonal staff
- Ability to contact and maintain working relationships with private landowners
- Experience publishing technical reports and articles for peer-reviewed journals

Primary Job Duties

- Conduct wild turkey surveys using traditional telemetry, GIS/GPS techniques, flush counts, *etc.*
- Monitor nest incubation and investigate hatches and failures, including on weekends and holidays
- Investigate mortality of marked wild turkeys and collect and preserve biological samples
- Work as part of a diverse team to capture and mark wild turkey adults, juveniles and poults
- Compile basic reports and statistical analyses from data collected during surveys
- Produce high quality biological reports
- Provide regular project updates to project lead(s) and/or Bureau staff
- Routine equipment, vehicle and facility maintenance
- Collaborate with other Bureau staff and external partners, such as academic institutions and NGO's.

To apply please send a resume, cover letter, and contact information for three references to Chris Ensminger, Chris.Ensminger@dnr.iowa.gov. **Applications due by October 10, 2022.**