



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT FORESTRY SPECIALIST



Application Deadline: The vacancies are open until filled, and interviews are scheduled as applications are received. The successful applicant can expect to start within 2-4 weeks after a job offer.

Position Duration: 1 year. The positions may be extended for additional years pending funding and job performance. If a position is extended, the candidate may be reassigned to another location in Iowa.

Overview and Job Duties: 2 positions are available for highly qualified individuals to work in a joint capacity with Wildlife Management Institute (WMI) and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to promote healthy forest management. The successful applicants will help private landowners improve their woodlands for wildlife, recreation, wood products, and soil and water quality.

The successful applicants will serve as employees of [Wildlife Management Institute](#) (WMI) and receive supervision from WMI, with daily instructions provided by the local DNR staff. Work priorities will be determined by local DNR District Foresters in conjunction with the DNR Private Lands Coordinator and the USDA-NRCS agreement funding the position. Training and support will be provided by the Iowa DNR, in particular the local District Foresters and the Private Lands Program Coordinator. Duties will include:

- Work closely with the local District Foresters and NRCS staff to identify opportunities for forest restoration and management.
- Work with private landowners to provide technical assistance for managing their properties, including conducting site visits and development of forest management plans.
- Develop Forest Management Plans that meet NRCS standards and program requirements.
- Conduct outreach activities to promote forest management objectives within the designated working area.
- Work with private landowners to provide information and assistance with available conservation programs such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) and other federal, state, and local programs.
- Duties will also include contract development and coordination, site assessment and monitoring, and regular tracking and reporting of accomplishments.
- Attendance at relevant DNR and NRCS meetings and/or trainings will also be required.

Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Superior communication (written and oral) skills. Must be comfortable both speaking in public and in engaging landowners on a one-to-one basis.
- Willingness to be a vocal advocate for young forests and active forest management to landowners and natural resource professionals.
- Ability to work independently.
- Knowledge of basic forest ecology and dynamics, especially related to the forest communities of Iowa.
- Knowledge of basic principles of wildlife management.
- Knowledge of relevant conservation programs, including Federal Farm Bill programs (CRP, EQIP and CSP), U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Partners for Fish & Wildlife program, and other applicable federal, state, and local conservation programs.
- Ability to work long hours in the field and under adverse weather conditions.
- Familiarity with MS Word, MS Excel, and GIS.
- Valid driver's license required with an acceptable driving record.

