

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Job Opportunity - Wildlife Research and Management Technician

Position title: Wildlife Research and Management Technician, Full-time Temporary

Location: Grand River Wildlife Unit Headquarters, Kellerton, IA in Ringgold County

Begin Date: March 14, 2025 (flexible)

End Date: August 14, 2025 (flexible)

Maximum Hours: 40 hours/week (779 total maximum hours)

Wage: \$15.00/Hour

Primary Duties:

The Iowa DNR Wildlife Diversity Program is seeking a full-time temporary technician to:

- Perform coverboard surveys for the Northern Prairie Skink.
- Perform population surveys for the Regal Fritillary Butterfly
- Assist with Greater Prairie-chicken surveys in the Grand River Grasslands.
- Assist with land management activities for these and other species in the Grand River Grasslands of Iowa.

Specific Duties include but are not limited to:

- Deploy and monitor coverboards for Northern Prairie Skinks. Collect weekly data starting in April.
- Chase and catch regal fritillary butterflies with a net. Walk transects and identify and record regal fritillaries as part of a transect sampling protocol.
- Perform general wildlife management activities including: Prairie management, prescribed fire, native prairie seeding, edge feathering, tree/brush removal, spraying, disking, mowing, etc. using large farm machinery, chainsaws, and other hand tools.
- Perform early morning lek surveys for Greater Prairie-chickens. Collect feathers from lek sites.
- Other wildlife surveys and monitoring including: deer spotlight routes, chronic wasting disease sampling, spring bird point counts, owl and nightjar surveys.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Detail-oriented and organized.
- Degree in wildlife biology or related field (or in progress) and knowledge of wildlife ecology (particularly wildlife classified as non-game) and scientific data collection techniques.
- Self-motivated and able to work independently.
- Experience working with reptiles and/or butterflies a plus.
- Experience handling wildlife, especially reptiles and butterflies.
- Experience with data entry.
- Able and willing to work long hours in the outdoors in all weather conditions, hike over uneven terrain, and lift and carry at least 60 lbs.
- Experience operating and maintaining habitat management equipment, such as chainsaw, tractor, and lawn mower a plus.
- Willing and able to work a flexible schedule including overnight travel and some early mornings and late nights.
- Valid Driver's License and ability to operate a motor vehicle.

The successful applicant will be working in one of the premier grassland landscapes in Iowa and the first-in-the-nation Grassland Bird Conservation Area. It is home to a high diversity of grassland wildlife. This position is a unique opportunity to work in both wildlife research and land management!

Deadline for Application: December 30, 2024 by 5 PM CST.

To apply: To receive full consideration, you must send a cover letter, resume/cv, and contact information (name, title, phone, and email) of three professional references as a single PDF document in an email with the subject line "Kellerton Wildlife Research Technician" to: Riggs Wilson, Wildlife Research Specialist riggs.wilson@dnr.iowa.gov