



## **Forest Conservation Director – Southern Appalachian Region**

**Location:** Remote or home office centrally within specified geography

**Region:** Southern Appalachians

**Posting Open Date:** January 15, 2020

**Posting Close Date:** February 15, 2020 (or until filled by an exceptional candidate)

### **RUFFED GROUSE SOCIETY/AMERICAN WOODCOCK SOCIETY**

We are seeking an outstanding individual to lead forest wildlife programs in the southern Appalachian Region. The region includes parts of northern Georgia, South Carolina, western North Carolina, eastern Tennessee, southern Virginia, and southern Kentucky.

The Ruffed Grouse Society & American Woodcock Society (RGS/AWS) is a national, non-profit group with a 60-year record of forest wildlife conservation.

#### **Qualifications:**

- A passion for forest and wildlife conservation.
- In-depth understanding of forest management including operations, silvicultural systems, forest product markets, third party certification, and environmental regulations. Ability to assess wildlife habitat and make connections between forest management and wildlife needs.
- Ability to lead and motivate. Excellent spoken and written communication skills. Well organized. Experience managing complex projects under deadlines.
- Willingness and ability to travel frequently throughout the region and all territories covered by RGS/AWS.
- Ability to establish a remote work location or home office.
- A degree in forestry or a closely related natural resource field, with 5+ years of experience and/or a graduate degree in natural resource management.

#### **Position Summary:**

The Forest Conservation Director will build and manage a network that achieves habitat improvement goals across several states. The Director will help transition RGS/AWS from discrete projects toward scalable, landscape efforts. Specifically, the Director will:

- Participate in planning for public forestlands and statutory/regulatory processes affecting forest and wildlife management.

- Strategize and oversee landscape initiatives, including habitat restoration, active management, and land acquisition.
- Pursue grants to fund the network, including staff and contracts for habitat work.
- Utilize all forms of media to increase public awareness of the ecological and social benefits of forest management.
- Coordinate strategy with communication staff to ensure impactful communications.
- Serve in a lead role among agencies, forest owners, industry representatives, conservation groups, and interested parties to promote forest conservation.
- Commit to local, on-the-ground involvement with people and communities.
- Participate on regional and national boards, and stakeholder groups to promote forest wildlife conservation.
- Advise policy staff of opportunities for RGS/AWS to engage on legislative issues at local, state, and national levels.
- Prepare and deliver testimony as an upper level RGS/AWS representative.
- Engage others through dynamic dialogue with contagious enthusiasm and shared vision.
- Recruit, hire, and supervise Forest Technicians who plan and implement projects.
- Take steps to remove bottlenecks and obstacles.
- Identify opportunities with foundations, public funding program officers, corporations, and other donors capable of magnifying the RGS/AWS mission through their philanthropic vision.
- Participate in fundraising efforts to increase conservation mission impact.
- Keep up to date on scientific research relevant to forest wildlife management.
- Make independent decisions based on analysis, experience, and judgment.

### **Compensation:**

Competitive salary, health insurance, and retirement options. A vehicle (or vehicle stipend) to meet business travel needs. A purchasing card for business and travel expenses. Computer, printer, cell phone, office supplies. Training and support as needed to excel.

Salary commensurate with experience and fit with RGS|AWS principles and culture.

### **To apply:**

Please email cover letter and resume combined in a single .pdf file by **February 15, 2020** to [benj@ruffedgrousesociety.org](mailto:benj@ruffedgrousesociety.org) using “**Southern Appalachians**” as the email subject line.