



**Job Type:** Forest Wildlife Specialist – Wisconsin

**Location:** Antigo, Wisconsin

**Region:** Great Lakes Region

**Posting Open Date:** May 20, 2024

**Posting Close Date:** June 23, 2024

**Term of Position:** July 2024 to September 2026, likely to be extended with additional funding. Anticipated Start Date: July 15, 2024.

### **Background:**

Established in 1961, the Ruffed Grouse Society (RGS) is North America's foremost conservation organization dedicated to creating healthy forests, abundant wildlife, and promoting a conservation ethic. Together with the American Woodcock Society (AWS), established in 2014, RGS & AWS work with private landowners and government agencies to develop critical wildlife habitat utilizing scientific management practices.

RGS & AWS has entered into a collaborative agreement with the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS). Together, RGS & AWS and NRCS are looking for a motivated individual to work effectively with private landowners and other stakeholders in the west-central region of Wisconsin. The Forest Wildlife Specialist will function as a Wildlife Forester, providing conservation technical assistance.

### **Qualifications:**

- A degree in forestry and/or closely related field, with 2+ years of experience and/or a graduate degree in natural resource management.
- Knowledge of forest ecology, forest management, forest operations, silviculture and farming related to land management in the Northern Forest region of Wisconsin. Ability to assess wildlife habitat and connect forest management and habitat needs.
- Excellent spoken and written communication skills, networking skills, organization, and ability to engage with diverse collaborators. Must be comfortable speaking in public and engaging landowners on a one-to-one basis.
- Ability to use MS Word, Excel, ArcGIS, Google Maps and other computer mapping systems to identify and delineate project boundaries.
- Willingness and ability to frequently travel throughout north-central Wisconsin and perform arduous fieldwork in difficult terrain and various weather conditions.
- Applicant must be self-motivated and responsible. Required ability to work independently and manage multiple projects under deadlines. Ability to produce effective results and problem-solve.
- The position must participate in specific training programs to use partner facilities and equipment. Applicant must have a valid driver's license.

### **Position Summary:**

Work jointly with the RGS & AWS and the NRCS to increase forest diversity and enhance habitat for forest wildlife by working with landowners to implement the Federal Farm Bill and other wildlife conservation programs. The successful candidate will provide technical assistance to landowners to develop forest management plans and implement forest management practices via the Environmental



Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) and other federal, state and local programs.

Duties will also include writing forest management plans, contract development and coordination, site assessment and monitoring, accomplishment reporting and development and implementation of outreach and educational efforts that will lead to broader adoption of active forest management by private landowners and public agencies. Coordinate outreach and wildlife habitat management efforts with RGS & AWS, NRCS, WDNR and other partner staff, especially related to the restoration and enhancement of young forest habitats.

Attendance at relevant RGS & AWS, NRCS and WDNR meetings will also be required. Assisting with regional forest conservation projects on public and private lands and attending RGS & AWS member/fundraising events may be required.

**Compensation:**

Competitive compensation; health insurance including medical, dental and vision; retirement options including employer contribution; a government vehicle for most business travel; a purchasing card for business and travel expenses; computer and printer; cell phone; office supplies and continuing education training and support as needed to excel will be provided.

Salary commensurate with experience, **minimum starting \$50,000-\$59,900.**

**Application Instructions:**

Please email a cover letter and resume combined in a single .pdf file by **June 23, 2024**, to [JaredE@RuffedGrouseSociety.org](mailto:JaredE@RuffedGrouseSociety.org) using "WI Forest Wildlife Specialist" as the email subject line. Submission of 3 references as part of the application submission is required.

Questions regarding this position can be directed to Jared Elm at (715)-450-2531 ([JaredE@RuffedGrouseSociety.org](mailto:JaredE@RuffedGrouseSociety.org))