IOWA JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Wild Turkey Research Field Technician (1)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until filled
SALARY: $15 per hour
HOURS: 40 hours per week; hours will vary by day and will include weekends and holidays
EQUIPMENT: DNR phone, computer and vehicle will be provided
TENTATIVE START DATE: April preferred, early May following college semester acceptable
TENTATIVE END DATE: End of July (possibly August depending on turkey nest success)
WORK LOCATIONS: SE Iowa, primarily Lucas and Van Buren counties, as well as Louisa and Jackson counties

JOB DESCRIPTION: The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is looking to hire one (1) Wildlife Research Specialist to complete field work associated with a 10-year eastern wild turkey study in SE Iowa. Successful applicants are expected to display a high level of initiative and commitment towards completing assignments both independently and as part of a team. Employees in this position will be under the general direction of a project field coordinator and wildlife biologist. Start and end dates are somewhat flexible based on the start and end dates of college semesters.

Successful applicants will complete fieldwork associated with a study to evaluate nesting and cause-specific mortality factors for wild turkey in SE Iowa. Work will be conducted April–August and include hiking in dense grasslands and forests, biting insects, and inclement weather (hot, humid, rain). Primary responsibilities will include:
- Monitoring nest initiation and hatch using radio telemetry equipment and ArcGIS Field Maps app;
- Tracking and monitoring radio-marked adult females;
- Collecting and preserving eggs and carcasses for laboratory analyses;
- Completing weekly turkey brood flush counts;
- Engaging with private landowners to gain land-access permission;
- Maintaining highly detailed notes on bird locations and nesting status;
- Ability to work independently outdoors and capable of hiking off-trail to access sites required;
- Additional opportunities to band geese or assist with prescribed burns with management unit staff are available.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:
- Completion of or working towards a degree in wildlife biology, animal ecology, or closely related field;
- Physically capable and willing to work outdoors in Iowa summer weather (hot, humid, rain);
- Capable of engaging and interacting professionally with private landowners;
- Ability to work independently with minimal supervision; maintain responsible behavior and attention to detail;
- Experience monitoring wildlife with radio telemetry preferred but not required;
- Must have a valid motor vehicle operator’s license;
- Ability to work weekends, holidays, days, nights, and overnight travel;
- Ability to follow policies and detailed data collection protocols, and cooperate with supervisors and co-workers;
- Successful applicants must display a high level of initiative, effort, and commitment towards completing assignments efficiently, exhibit honesty and integrity, be self-motivated and detail-oriented, have strong organizational skills, and have a positive attitude.

TO APPLY: Send cover letter, résumé, and contact information for 3 references to dan.kaminski@dnr.iowa.gov

Dan Kaminski, Wildlife Research Biologist
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