John,

I have been asked to reach out to NREM on behalf of USDA Wildlife Services in Iowa regarding multiple upcoming job openings (Job Description Below). We are looking to hire upwards of 15 full-time technicians in the coming months and believe having a direct connection to Iowa State would help expedite the hiring process.

Thanks,
Daniel Newton

General Job Description:
USDA Wildlife Services (WS) is starting a new project where we will be hiring several full-time wildlife technicians throughout Iowa. The positions will be specifically dealing with identifying and mitigating potential Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) risks to commercial poultry facilities from wildlife (primarily avian). The wildlife specialist positions will be responsible for the “boots on the ground” activities, conducting Wildlife Biosecurity Assessments (WBA) and direct control at poultry facilities throughout their designated areas.

WS may also provide wildlife mitigation and monitoring services based on the integrated approach that includes site-specific assessments and recommendations followed by application of methods and approaches to reduce wild bird/wildlife impacts on domestic bird health. The integrated approach may include reduction of attractants (food, water, shelter), exclusion (barriers to limit bird access to building/facilities), wildlife dispersal and/or removal, and other methods. WS may also provide regular and continuous monitoring of wildlife to ensure continued risk mitigation over time, which will serve as ongoing wildlife biosecurity assessment/mitigation. Continual assessment and mitigation are required due to seasonal migratory and local movement behaviors of birds, and attendant variations in bird presence and risk.

These positions will be an excellent opportunity for self-motivated individuals to be involved on the ground level of a high-profile pilot project. As these positions evolve, there may be other opportunities to assist with other types of wildlife damage management projects.

*Due to the sensitivity and potential transmission of HPAI from other avian species to commercial poultry, a pre-requisite for occupying any of these field positions will require that candidates agree not to hunt waterfowl while employed in these positions or possess their own poultry/waterfowl for commercial or private interest. These positions will also not be allowed to participate in our normal waterfowl avian influenza surveillance program, and will not be allowed to be mobilized to respond to other HPAI situations.*