

Director of Conservation Policy

Ruffed Grouse Society/American Woodcock Society

Supervisor: President/Chief Executive Officer

Region: United States

Summary: The Director of Conservation Policy works with the Administration, Congress and the wildlife conservation community to promote federal policies and programs that enhance RGS/AWS opportunities to sustain early successional forest habitat on public and private forest lands and to provide for thriving ruffed grouse and American woodcock populations throughout the United States. In addition, this individual will aid RGS/AWS staff and members to affect beneficial forest wildlife conservation policies and programs at the state level. This position is also responsible for broadening public understanding of the role of science-based forest management in forest wildlife conservation.

Basic Requirements: Must have demonstrable knowledge of wildlife management tools and techniques related to the growth and maintenance of ruffed grouse and American woodcock habitats and populations. Must have excellent written and verbal communication skills and display attention to detail. Must exhibit computer proficiency in WORD, EXCEL, OUTLOOK and other applications as required. Must display ability to take initiative and work independently, and be capable of working closely with RGS/AWS staff, members and donors.

Responsibilities

- Work directly with the Administration, Congress, federal resource management agencies and non-governmental organizations to promote federal policies and programs that enable the enhancement of early successional wildlife habitats on public and private forest lands
- Aid in the coordination of RGS/AWS staff and member involvement in statutory/regulatory development affecting forest management on public and private forest lands
- Regularly communicate RGS/AWS policy efforts via a column in *RGS Magazine*
- Coordinates with appropriate staff to ensure that all outreach work is effectively planned and implemented
- Participates on relevant regional or national committees/boards or in other similar capacities to promote or otherwise further the mission of RGS/AWS when approved by supervisor
- Utilize all appropriate media to increase public awareness of the ecological and social benefits of forest wildlife habitat management
- Provides timely and accurate analysis of all programs and reports to the supervisor

and the rest of the organization as required

- Participates in regular team meetings to address organizational issues and collaborates on organizational initiatives
- Contributes to the development of plans and strategies and the resolution of operational issues together with other teams

Qualifications and key abilities

- **Education:** Master's degree in Wildlife Ecology or related field of study or Bachelor's degree with substantial experience.
- **Experience:** Expertise in evaluating statutory/regulatory language and the potential impacts thereof on forest wildlife conservation.
- **Member Relations/Outreach:** Proven success in creating outreach projects.
- **Project Leadership:** Experience in planning, leading, and managing projects and initiatives, including coordinating with peers and volunteers to achieve desired outcomes, and tracking and reporting on progress to the supervisor
- **Communications:** Skilled in creating powerful, compelling written and oral communications for engaging groups and individuals with the RGS/AWS mission. Ability to convey complex ideas through brief, simple materials. Experience and credibility when presenting materials to external audiences
- **Influencing:** Gets others to accept ideas by using convincing arguments, creates a win-win situation and responds appropriately to key stakeholders
- **Collaboration:** Effective at working with others to reach common goals and objectives
- **Relationship Building:** Skilled at establishing and cultivating strong relationships with peers, across different levels of the organization and externally
- **Over-night Travel:** Ability for over-night travel (60 to 80 nights per year)

To apply:

Please send a resume and cover letter by 10 March 2017 to:

John Eichinger, Ruffed Grouse Society/American Woodcock Society, 451 McCormick Road,
Coraopolis, PA 15108
412-203-4102; johne@ruffedgrousesociety.org