Career Opportunity

Director

National Wildlife Research Center
USDA/APHIS Wildlife Services (WS)

Wildlife Services' National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC) is recruiting a Director to be located at the Center's headquarters in Fort Collins, Colorado. The award-winning NWRC is part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

NWRC is the research and methods development section of the Wildlife Services program. Scientists and support staff find solutions to challenging wildlife damage management problems related to human-wildlife coexistence, including:

- agriculture damage (crops, livestock, aquaculture, and timber);
- domestic animal health (diseases transmitted by wildlife);
- human health and safety (diseases transmitted by wildlife, aviation hazards);
- property damage;
- invasive species; and
- threatened and endangered species.

NWRC scientists and staff develop solutions that are biologically sound, environmentally safe, and socially acceptable for use in resolving human wildlife conflicts throughout the United States and abroad.

The NWRC employs about 150 personnel, who are located at its headquarters campus in the foothills of Fort Collins, CO and at eight field stations throughout the United States.

NWRC's scientists and staff have expertise in a wide range of disciplines, including animal behavior, wildlife biology, wildlife disease, sensory biology, chemistry, immunology, epidemiology, statistics, economics, population modeling, genetics, toxicology, and veterinary medicine.

For more information on current NWRC research, please visit: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/wildlifedamage/programs/nwrc

Position Duties

The Director leads the Center to ensure the performance and alignment of the NWRC research program with mission needs of the USDA, APHIS, and WS. This position reports to the Deputy Administrator of Wildlife Services.

Key Duties include

- Is a member of the WS Management Team, contributing leadership and vision for overall program effectiveness.
- Supervises Assistant Directors and senior administrative staff within the Director's office.
- Collects and analyzes internal and external information to monitor and enhance program effectiveness;
- Promotes an organizational culture that values and invests in its employees to support their professionalism, competency, and innovation as Federal leaders of wildlife damage management;
- Communicates internally and externally to promote the research and mission of the Center and foster an understanding of the Federal role in wildlife damage and disease management;
- Demonstrates vision, scientific integrity, and leadership in developing or applying cutting-edge scientific methods for complex wildlife damage management issues.
- Ensures equal opportunity and non-discrimination with internal personnel management practices and the delivery of program services;
- Enforces all civil rights laws, rules, regulations and executive orders in accomplishing the agency's mission.
Position Location

NWRC is headquartered in Fort Collins, Colorado. The 43-acre campus includes facilities for conducting wildlife research, such as chemistry and disease laboratories, a wide range of outdoor animal holding pens, indoor animal test facilities for tropical and temperate simulated natural environments, and a biosafety-level 3 laboratory and animal test facilities.

In addition to the headquarters campus, NWRC also has field stations strategically located across the United States. The field stations focus on invasive species; problems to the sunflower, timber, livestock and aquaculture industries; wildlife-aviation impacts; pseudorabies and feral swine; chemical sensory perception in wildlife; and overabundant birds.

Fort Collins rests along the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains and is home to Colorado State University and various high technology businesses. Fort Collins is situated within an hour of Rocky Mountain National Park, Roosevelt National Forest, and the Denver metro area. Hunting, fishing, hiking, white water rafting, wildlife viewing, in addition to spectacular scenery, are just a few of the activities available in the Fort Collins area.

Salary

The starting salary for the Director is determined by the Senior Executive Service (SES) pay scale and is dependent upon the qualifications and experience of the successful candidate. Details of 2020 salary range within grade and locality can be found at https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/

To Apply

The position will be advertised for four weeks starting in early 2020 on the USAJobs website (www.usajobs.gov) as Director, National Wildlife Research Center.

To apply, please visit the website and submit your application online.

For Additional Information

Interested candidates may contact: Janet Bucknall Deputy Administrator Phone: 202-799-7096 E-mail: janet.l.bucknall@usda.gov

Left to right: Outdoor animal pens at NWRC’s 43-acre headquarters campus; Rabies scientist draws blood from a skunk; NWRC’s Wildlife Science Building.