

WILDLIFE BIOMETRICIAN
Indiana Division of Fish & Wildlife

Job ID: 611653 (<http://www.in.gov/spd/careers/>)

Location: Indiana Division of Fish & Wildlife Bloomington Field Office, Bloomington, IN

Annual Salary: \$52,208.00

Application Deadline: before November 4, 2017

Description: The Wildlife Biometrician functions at the professional level within the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) to provide quantitative and analytical support to Wildlife Section staff for the statistical design, implementation, and data analyses of biological, ecological, and sociological investigations of wildlife populations and their constituent/user groups. Incumbent ensures that investigations are fundamentally grounded in science, yield representative and unbiased data, and provide balanced and significant input to guide resource management decisions. Incumbent leads the integration and development of science-based initiatives into DFW programs and works closely with, and serves as a resource for, DNR DFW and MIS staff and contracted researchers. This position advances the science of wildlife conservation and management in Indiana and facilitates the informed stewardship of the State's wildlife resources. The incumbent reports directly to the Wildlife Science Program Manager.

Responsibilities:

- Provide comprehensive quantitative and analytical support for the statistical design, implementation, analyses, and interpretation of biological, ecological, and sociological investigations of wildlife populations.
- Review biometric aspects of new and existing projects, proposals, and data collection activities.
- Participate in wildlife-based fieldwork to ensure proper sampling practices and to improve understanding of project design and implementation.
- Develop and implement data analyses needed to answer biological, ecological, and sociological questions identified by Wildlife Section staff.
- Manage and/or assist in data collection, data entry, data transfer, archiving, quality control, and quality assurance of wildlife investigations.
- Examine datasets to identify patterns and establish relationships to solve problems through analyses (*i.e.*, data mining).
- Lead in the development and application of new and emerging technologies (remote data acquisition) or information analysis techniques to improve program efficiency.
- Advise in management of existing databases and develop new data sources to meet program objectives and fulfill system expansions and new initiatives.
- Provide for the integrity, security, accessibility, and archiving of wildlife-related databases.
- Manage data-sharing agreements to ensure protection of sensitive resources.
- Author, coauthor, or review statistical content in technical reports and scientific papers in cooperation with project leaders and other involved staff.
- Coordinate with DNR-MIS, IN.gov, and IOT regarding information system enhancements and updates.
- Assist with GIS needs (e.g., geospatial analyses, data visualization) of Wildlife Section staff.
- Collaborate with resource professionals and university faculty on cooperative research and management efforts.

- Stay abreast of developments in statistics and quantitative analysis pertaining to wildlife ecology and management and incorporate new knowledge, skills, and tools into programs.
- Review technical journals and attend professional conferences, meetings, and/or training courses at national, regional, state, and local levels.
- Present the results of research at agency meetings, professional conferences and symposia, local conservation clubs, and other public forums.
- Interface with internal and external biometricians and/or quantitative biologists to develop or improve statistical approaches.
- Assist in keeping web-based Department and Division program content accurate and current.
- Assist other Department and Division staff as needed with research and management projects or programs.
- Prepare annual budget reports and requests, remain current on personnel policies and rules, and attend staff and other administrative meetings.

Preferred Experience: An advanced degree (M.S. or Ph.D) in quantitative ecology, statistics, biometrics, and/or informatics or one of the biological sciences including or supplemented by coursework in graduate level statistics and/or biometrics.

- Specialized knowledge in the field of statistical theory and techniques of quantitative biological research to include experimental, survey, and sample design.
- Specialized knowledge of basic statistical procedures to include multivariate and nonparametric methods, hypothesis testing, variance estimation, generalized linear models, and spatial and time series analyses.
- Specialized knowledge of analyses and software commonly used in wildlife research such as population size estimation, occupancy modeling, survival analyses, spatial and movement analyses, and resource selection.
- Experience that demonstrates advanced computer skills including word processing, database management, and programming languages for software or databases such as MS Access, Oracle, MySQL, SQL Server, Qualtrics, and the analysis of computer data using standard statistical software such as R and/or SAS.
- Ability to apply statistical analyses to wildlife research or management problems, to examine new problems, and where applicable, develop new solutions.
- Ability to design and implement programs to collect biological information, analyze data, interpret significance, and prepare accurate reports.
- Ability to present biological data and analytical results clearly and in a clear and logical manner to technically-oriented staff, administrators, and lay people.
- Ability to communicate with other biometricians and biologists with diverse backgrounds, both verbally and in writing.
- Ability to plan, organize, prepare budgets and administer biometric projects.
- Well-developed problem-solving skills; required ability for initiating and implementing creative options that address many differing points of view.

Benefits: The State of Indiana offers a comprehensive benefit package which includes:

- Choose from four medical plans (including RX coverage), vision and dental
- Wellness program that offers eligibility into a discounted medical plan

- Health savings account, offered for most medical plans, includes state contributions
- Deferred compensation account (similar to a private sector's 401 K plan) with employer match, as well as a choice between two fully funded pension plans
- Group life insurance
- Employee assistance program that allows for covered behavioral health visits
- Paid vacation, personal and sick time off
- The State of Indiana offers other generous leave policies covering a variety of employee needs
- 12 company paid holidays, 14 on election years
- Qualified employer for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program

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