



Joint Wildlife Science and Management Associate

Location: Rob and Bessie Welder Wildlife Foundation (WWF), Sinton, Texas (40 minutes northwest of Corpus Christi) and Nemours Wildlife Foundation (NWF), Yemassee, South Carolina (30 minutes north of Beaufort, SC).

Start Date: Approximately 1 September 2026

Description: The Joint Wildlife Research & Management Associate is a yearlong apprenticeship designed to provide emerging conservation professionals with immersive, hands-on experience across two nationally recognized research institutions: the Welder Wildlife Foundation (Texas) and the Nemours Wildlife Foundation (South Carolina).

The Associate will spend six months at each foundation, gaining exposure to distinct ecosystems, research priorities, and land management practices. Under the guidance of research, education, and operations staff, the Associate will contribute to field projects, support habitat management, assist with educational programming, and develop professional competencies essential for a career in wildlife conservation and natural resource management.

Potential Duties and Responsibilities

Habitat Management, Scientific Data Collection, and Infrastructure Maintenance

- Assist in implementing habitat management practices such as prescribed fire, brush management, prescribed grazing, invasive species management, etc.
- Work with each Foundations' staff and graduate students to collect a wide variety of wildlife research data.
- Perform basic day-to-day duties required to maintain building infrastructure and land on two >7,500-acre properties.
- Complete routine equipment maintenance needed for day-to-day operations.

Education and Outreach

- Assist in youth and adult educational programs/field days.
- Work alongside education team to update education materials and develop new content.

Professional Development

- Shadow leadership across the foundation to gain knowledge in program delivery, planning, budget development, project management, partner/donor relations, etc.
- Sit in on staff meetings, strategic planning sessions, or board meetings, as permitted, to understand how non-profits deliver mission throughout all stages.
- Attend seminars, workshops, and professional meetings that align with developing professional knowledge and skill sets.

Research Support, Data Management, and Reporting

- Assist with any field-related assessments, or surveys occurring on site.
- Work with onsite graduate students and researchers to collect data following scientific protocols unique to each foundation.
- Enter/organize data to each institution's standards and create reports or presentations over work done at each foundation.

Capstone Project

- Complete one project at each foundation that aligns with mission and deliverables.
- Present project findings to staff through written or oral reports at the end of each rotation.

Other duties as assigned to support ranching, habitat restoration, research, education, and outreach programs.

Required Qualifications

- Bachelor's or Master's degree in range and/or wildlife management, agriculture, other natural resources, or applicable field no more than 2 years post-graduation
- Skilled in Microsoft Office suite and other programs such as ArcGIS Pro.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, as well as interpersonal skills.
- Must be willing and able to safely operate gas powered equipment (UTVs, chainsaw, string trimmer, etc.) and a variety of hand tools.
- Must be willing to work outdoors in all kinds of weather and in various natural habitats and ground conditions.
- Ability to perform strenuous outdoor tasks related to research, education, and land management operations.
- Ability to multitask, and work cooperatively with others and be a highly motivated, self-starter, and honest individual displaying sound judgment and a practical approach to decision-making.
- Applicant should display attentiveness to matters of safety, risk, and liability as well as sensitivity to security of Foundation property.
- Successful candidates must maintain a valid driver's license.

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience in research and knowledge of the scientific method is preferred.
- Working knowledge and experience in land management is preferred.
- Previous experience in data collection and monitoring is preferred.
- Basic handyman skills in carpentry, plumbing and infrastructure maintenance is preferred.
- Applicants must have positive attitude, strong work ethic, and good communication skills

Compensation and Benefits

Compensation is \$15.00/hour (40-hour work week) with a travel stipend to cover expenses during transition to Nemours Foundation. Onsite housing and utilities are provided.

How To Apply

Please submit your resume, along with a cover letter and three references, via email with the subject line 'Attn: Wildlife Science and Management Associate' to Dr. Dale James (djames@welderwildlife.org) and Ty Higginbotham (thigginbotham@welderwildlife.org).

Deadline for application is April 10, 2026. Finalists are subject to criminal background check.