



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPEN DATE: 08/04/2025

CLOSING DATE: 09/05/2025

POSITION TITLE: Fixed Wing Pilot

TYPE OF POSITION: 13 month Term appointment with the possibility for Benefits, Excepted Service (may be extended up to 4 years)

WORK SCHEDULE: Full-time – Maxi Flex

ANNOUNCEMENT #: WSWR-NV-25-01

SERIES/GRADE: GS-2181-12

FULL PERFORMANCE LEVEL: GS-2181-12

NUMBER OF POSITIONS: 1

LOCATIONS: Ely, NV-White Pine County
(Relocation expenses will not be paid)

SALARY: **Grade 12**-\$88,621.00 to \$115,213.00 per year

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Wildlife
Services

Nevada State
Office

8775 Technology
Way
Reno, NV 89521
Ph: (775) 851-4848

An Equal Opportunity
Employer

WHO MAY APPLY:

- Must be a U.S. Citizen
- Must be 18 years old
- If you are a male born after December 31, 1959, and are at least 18 years of age, civil service employment law (5 U.S.C. 3328) requires that you must be registered with the Selective Service System, unless you meet certain exemptions (proof of registration and/or exemption required). Website: <http://www.sss.gov>.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

- Resume (include hours per week and days/months/years worked)
- Transcripts (if qualifying on education)
- DD-214 (Member 4 copy)
- VA letter required for applicable Veteran preference.
- Current active-duty members must submit a certification that they are expected to be discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions not later than 120 days after the date the certification is submitted.
- Current valid FAA Pilot Certificate

- Current First Class or Second-Class Medical Certificate
- Pilot Qualification Table (SEE ATTACHMENT)

HOW TO APPLY: Additional materials not listed above (i.e., position descriptions, training certificates, etc.) may not be considered. Applicants who do not submit the required items listed above may not be considered. Applications with all supporting documents must be submitted to the contact office and must be **RECEIVED** by the **CLOSING DATE** of this announcement.

Interested individuals should send a resume, transcripts, veteran documentation (if applicable) to the address listed here:

CONTACT OFFICE:

CONTACT OFFICE:

Wildlife Services-Nevada
8775 Technology Way
Reno, NV 89521
Mark Ono, State Director
Mark.Ono@usda.gov
Office: (775) 332-3217
Cell: (775) 622-6927

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you have any questions, or if you need copies of forms identified above, please call 307-261-5336.

INTRODUCTION:

This position is that of a Wildlife Service Pilot (Fixed Wing), Wildlife Services (WS) Program, US Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). The primary purpose of this position is concerned with the pilot duties and responsibilities in support of WS operations to protect resources and human interests from wildlife damage. Assignments involve flying aircraft over unfavorable terrain. A very high degree of skill is required because of flight procedures, maneuvering and environmental factors. The incumbent must be able to navigate visually to mission area in remote areas by use of terrain features rather than standard or typical navigations equipment. The incumbent must have the ability to maintain visual contact with target animals while avoiding ground structures or terrain features. The incumbent is required to fly very precise patterns, close to the surface and at slow air speeds. Assignments or mission requirements may be further complicated by performance of several tasks requiring precise timing and execution. Other situations typical of this position, such as firearm usage, may result from constant diversions or division of attention from flying the aircraft and require immediate response on the part of the pilot to take immediate corrective action to avert an incident. Typical missions are flown during daylight hours under visual conditions with extreme variances of temperature, wind conditions, high density altitudes, and over unfavorable terrain, e.g., mountains, forest, or deserts with responsibility for operating from confined or isolated areas.

Major Duties:

The duties may include, but are not limited to:

- Pilots a fixed wing aircraft with crew member or observer on board for the purpose of locating and/or shooting predatory animals and feral swine or aiding ground crews in providing such assistance in other situations requiring aerial surveys, census, etc.

- Ensures scheduling and completion of routine and non-routine maintenance and airworthiness of aircraft placed under their responsibility in accordance with APHIS Aviation Operations manual.
- Receives recurrent flight training and provides training and instruction to other WS personnel in the proper procedures and techniques of shooting from aircraft, safety aspects, and program policies regarding aircraft operations.
- Conducts safety evaluations of personnel participating in aerial activities and on aircraft used in WS operations.
- Performs other duties as assigned by the State Director.

TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS:

- 25% or less
- Travel will be required

MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Minimum eligibility requirements for positions in this occupation are based on possession of the appropriate Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) pilot certificates and/or appropriate military ratings, meeting the applicable flight hour requirements, and possession of the knowledge and skills required for the position.

Certificates and Ratings: Candidates must possess a current Commercial Pilot Certificate or the appropriate military rating. An Instrument Rating or the military equivalent rating is also required. The pilot certificate must include the rating(s) appropriate to the work of the position to be filled.

Note: Candidates establishing eligibility based on military flight experience must provide official orders, forms, or logbooks showing their status as a rated military pilot, flight instructor, or flight examiner, as appropriate. Other certificates that meet or exceed the requirements of the Commercial Pilot Certificate are also acceptable, e.g., an Airline Transport Pilot Certificate.

Flight Experience: Candidates must demonstrate possession of the knowledge and skills required for the work by meeting certain minimum flight hour requirements, including recent flight experience. The categories in which candidates are required to demonstrate proficiency relate to (1) the general knowledge and skills to pilot the aircraft, and (2) the specific knowledge and skills related to the position being filled. Only that flight experience that is directly related to the work of the position is required for purposes of establishing minimum eligibility.

MINIMUM FLIGHT HOUR OPM REQUIREMENTS (applies to all applicants)

1. Total Flight Time – 1500 hours total flight time. Flight time as pilot-in-command or copilot in aircraft of any weight or category is creditable for this requirement.
2. Pilot-In-Command – 250 hours. Only flight hours acquired as pilot-in-command are creditable.
3. Night Flying – 75 hours.
4. Flying Time Last 12 months – 100 hours.

The following Selective Placement Factor (SPF) requirement is used to determine whether an applicant fully qualifies for this position. Therefore, it is MANDATORY that all applicants meet this requirement to receive further consideration for this job vacancy. Applicants must demonstrate they have the knowledge and experience of the SPF listed below. Evidence of this experience must

be documented in your resume. Applicants who fail to meet this requirement and/or address the SPF may lose further consideration:

- 1,200 hours PIC time in a single engine land airplane; and
- 100 hours PIC light time in the preceding 12 months; and
- 100 hours PIC flight time in the make and model of aircraft or similar type, to be used on WS missions; and
- 250 hours experience as PIC for wildlife damage management operations; or
- 500 hours experience in agriculture application operations or similar WS type flying experience.

FOR THE GS-012 GRADE: Applicants must have one year of specialized experience (equivalent to the GS-11 level) that may have been obtained in the private or public (local, county, state, federal) sectors which demonstrates:

- Experience flying at low levels (less than 500 feet AGL).
- Experience landing on unimproved and/or remote terrain.
- Experience flying in adverse environmental conditions.

Note: There is no education substitution for this grade level

MEDICAL REQUIREMENT

At the time of initial appointment, candidates for all pilot positions must possess a current first or second-class medical certificate in accordance with FAA regulations.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

- Must obtain or have a valid U.S. driver's license. Operation of Government-owned or leased vehicles is required. (if this applies)
- As a condition of employment, appropriate security clearance is required for this position.
- Position is subject to random and applicant drug testing.
- After successfully passing the initial screening, the New Hire pilot enters the WS New Hire/Contractor Pilot training program. The New Hire/Contractor Fixed Wing Pilot Training Program consists of a minimum 40-hour flight time, and 80 hours ground instruction specific to WS helicopter aerial operations. Helicopter training shall be conducted at the WS Aviation Training and Operations Center.
- Required to fly very precise patterns close to the surface.
- Typical missions are flown during daylight hours under visual conditions with extreme variances of temperature, wind conditions, high density altitudes, and over unfavorable terrain (e.g., mountains, forest, or deserts).
- Must have a knowledge of and be capable of using:
 - Working with the public and other cooperating agencies
 - Communication skills
 - Electronic equipment (GPS, Trimble, computer)
- Must demonstrate a respect for safety in all operations, including the operation of motor vehicles, firearms, control devices, and equipment.
- To perform the essential duties of this position, you must have the legal and physical ability to possess and discharge firearms. You must be able to pass a government background check

and meet any additional requirements to carry and use firearms. A background check will include answering questions about where you've lived, worked, went to school, and any military history or police records. Selection and retention in this position is contingent on a successfully adjudicated FBI National Criminal History Check (fingerprint check).

Emergency Response – APHIS is an emergency response agency. This means that all Agency employees may be asked or assigned to participate in rotating temporary duty assignments to support emergency programs at some time during their careers with APHIS. It is difficult to predict the frequency with which such emergency situations may occur – and could range from several emergencies in a year to none over the course of many years. If you are called upon to support an emergency program, this may require irregular working hours, including overtime, and may include duties other than those specified in your official position description. While some emergency program support assignments may be able to be performed at the employee's current duty station, in other cases employees may be asked to go on-site to a temporary duty state location.

In addition, it may be necessary for employees to participate in multiple rotations to an emergency program assignment. Attempts will be made to keep disruption to the employee to a minimum.

See this link:

<https://www.usajobs.gov//Help/working-in-government/fair-and-transparent/signature-false-statements/>

NOTE: APPLICANTS FOR THIS POSITION WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT TO URINALYSIS TO SCREEN FOR ILLEGAL DRUG USE PRIOR TO APPOINTMENT. APPOINTMENT TO THE POSITION WILL BE CONTINGENT UPON A NEGATIVE DRUG TEST RESULT. INCUMBENTS OF THIS POSITION WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT TO URINALYSIS TO SCREEN FOR ILLEGAL DRUG USE ON AN ONGOING BASIS AFTER APPOINTMENT, AS DIRECTED.

Carrying a firearm is a condition of employment – In the passing of the ***Lautenberg Amendment***, Congress passed legislation which prohibits anyone who has been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence from possessing a firearm or ammunition. If selected you will be required to sign the form, "Inquiry for Positions Requiring Possession of Firearms," certifying that you meet this criterion.

The United States Government does not discriminate in employment based on race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, retaliation, parental status, military service, or other non-merit factor.

Reasonable Accommodation Policy-

Federal agencies must provide reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. Applicants requiring reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process should contact the hiring agency directly. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a Case-by-Case basis.

A reasonable accommodation is any change in the workplace, or the way things are customarily done that provides an equal employment opportunity to an individual with a disability. Under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) must provide reasonable accommodations:

- An applicant with a disability needs an accommodation to have an equal opportunity to apply for a job.
- An employee with a disability needs an accommodation to perform the essential job duties or to gain access to the workplace.
- An employee with a disability needs an accommodation to receive equal access to benefits, such as details, training, and office-sponsored events.

Relocation costs will not be paid for this position.

More than one selection may be made from this announcement.