

**GULF COAST SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
DISTRICT TECHNICIAN/FERAL SWINE TRAPPER  
POSITION DESCRIPTION**

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

**HIRING AGENCY:** Gulf Coast Soil and Water Conservation District

**STARTING PAY RATE:** \$17.00/ Hour

**WORK SCHEDULE:** 3 Year Limited Term; 40 hour week: Monday – Friday  
7:30am – 4:00pm

**BENEFITS:** Earned Paid Annual and Sick Leave and Parochial Retirement.  
*Optional Benefits:* Health Insurance, Life Insurance, Deferred Compensation

**WORK ATTIRE:** Business Casual; no shorts, sandals, open-toed shoes, shirts with major logo prints or advertisements (Magellan, Columbia, etc Makers Emblems ARE allowed).

**DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS OF WORK**

Feral swine/nuisance animal technicians carry out operations in comprehensive manner that may vary by SWCD, funding instrument, and according to geographic necessity. Relevant experience, working knowledge and general understanding of effective feral swine trapping and control methods will be required. Assigned areas are enrolled tracts which may include farms, marshland, wooded wetlands & uplands, and urban areas which are covered by SWCD/Land manager agreements relating to the conduct of approved control methods.

Work will be performed in accordance with standards, methods policies and procedures established by the SWCD, the LDAF/Office of Soil & Water Conservation, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and the USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services and progress will be shared among interagency partners via meetings and written reports. General supervision is received from the SWCD Board of Supervisors, and daily work guidance and supervision is received from the NRCS District Conservationist.

**DUTIES; The incumbent will:**

Perform feral swine control measures and related wildlife management techniques for reducing damages to agriculture, native ecosystems, property and human and animal health and safety caused by feral swine and other nuisance wildlife.

Perform feral swine natural resource damage assessments and inspections, conduct wildlife damage assessments and photo documentation of damage.

Plan, develop and conduct feral swine population surveys by use of camera surveillance, drones, approved population indices and other approved methods.

Develop and implement cooperator assistance strategies that incorporate technical assistance and operational control techniques.

Make regular contact with SWCD Cooperators to collect data regarding feral swine damages, current or ongoing damage control efforts among cooperators, and other related aspects of feral swine damage and pre-project control efforts on their properties.

Manage and compile collected environmental and land user data as directed by APHIS and NRCS partners.

Assist APHIS and NRCS staff in efforts to communicate with landowners to provide outreach and education on necessary techniques for maximum control of feral swine, i.e. minimizing area disturbance, pre baiting, trap/bait site selection, feral swine behavioral conditioning and other noted needs, methods, techniques and other matters deemed critical to program success.

Network with other wildlife and natural resource management professionals and colleagues from various government and non-government organizations.

Develop strong interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills, and be able to convey technical information related to feral swine control and wildlife management to a broad range of audiences.

Develop knowledge of agricultural systems, cultural and agronomic practices common to the assigned area in order to effectively work with private landowners to efficiently meet individual feral swine control needs.

Become familiar with wildlife identification, and with State and Federal laws and regulations, and ensure program compliance.

Be willing and able to physically corral, load, and occasionally tag and recapture live animals.

Remotely monitor animal activities using computers, cameras, drones, telemetry or other similar technology, mapping and GPS equipment.

Develop computer shapefiles and digital mapping of enrolled tracts for interagency program use.

Assist APHIS staff with field collection of feral swine blood, hair, stomach or other tissue samples for lab or field analysis.

Organize, conduct, and implement direct control operations within a specific multi-parish area as assigned, to control damage caused by wildlife, with specific emphasis on feral swine.

Maintain public and SWCD cooperator contacts; providing technical assistance and formulating proper species-selective wildlife damage control strategies.

Assist coworkers and other wildlife technicians in preparing and submitting routine and special reports regarding daily, weekly or monthly activities, observations, events and other relevant data.

Meet with private landowners, lessees, citizen groups or associations seeking wildlife damage management assistance for developing trapping/control strategies.

Serve as an expert instructor and conduct demonstrations and training for others, including other cooperators or interested groups, on damage control methods, procedures, and program objectives. This may include preliminary instructions and training of new personnel on District equipment and devices, feral swine behavior and control methods. (Lead Technician)

Prepare revision or modification recommendations to NRCS and LDAF for on-going feral swine damage reduction program (lead technician).

Report accomplishments, problems encountered, work locations, etc. to supervisor and others as instructed.

Perform all required-maintenance, management, record-keeping and reporting on all District owned equipment at all times. All equipment must be continually accounted for by documentation of condition and location.

Safely and effectively operate on and off-road vehicles in remote, adverse and undeveloped conditions.

Demonstrate safety in all operations, including the operation of motor vehicles, firearms, control devices, and equipment.

Participate in group meetings and discussion. Represent the District Program when requested.

Conduct basic computer operations for record keeping, data analysis, report writing and correspondence.

- Must obtain or have a valid state driver's license. Operation of Government-owned or leased vehicles is required.
- As a condition of employment, appropriate security clearance is required for this position.
- Position is subject to random and applicant drug testing.

Prepare necessary records and reports on work accomplished.

Performs all other duties as assigned.

### **RESPONSIBILITY**

Work assignments will be made relative to the goals and objectives of the APHIS/NRCS Feral swine Control Program, ideally without necessity of explicit or burdensome instruction; Self-starting self-reliant character will be essential for success. Technical or personal contact issues will be resolved independently but may refer to others in difficult circumstances. Assistance will be provided in solving technical problems involving unfamiliar equipment, methods or concepts.

### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

At least one year of experience in feral swine trapping, trapping equipment use and adaptation, general farm operations; a high school diploma or equivalent. In addition, one year of specialized experience which provided knowledge and skills for advising farmers on installation and maintenance of soil and water conservation practices would be an asset.

### **KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES AND SKILL REQUIREMENTS**

Knowledge of the principals of feral swine management, monitoring, trapping methods, and general feral swine population control.

Ability to work with landowners, and to communicate with them effectively and understand their needs and concerns.

Ability to work independently without direct supervision.

Ability to work in harsh conditions including but not limited to: inclement weather, extended hours, high/low temperatures, remote and undeveloped areas.

Be physically able to safely lift at least 50 lbs. from the ground unassisted.

**WILDLIFE TECHNICIAN MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT TO SUPERVISORS --ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS**

<b><u>Activity</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>No./Total</u></b>
Correspondence		
Outreach		
Resource inventory		
Damage assessments		
Plan development / maintenance		
Practice Survey/Design/Checkout		
• As needed only for Expanded landowner Contracts		
Status review		
Meetings		
Training		
Other		

Customers Assisted: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ (DC or assigned)