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NEWS RELEASE

Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever and Partners Hire Farm Bill Biologist to Assist Southeast MO Landowners

Blake Abt will serve Madison, St. Francois, & Ste. Genevieve counties

STE. GENEVIEVE, Mo – April 3, 2024 – Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever in Missouri is excited to share that Blake Abt was hired for the Ste. Genevieve, Mo., Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist position. He started in his new position March 25th, 2024.

Farm Bill Wildlife Biologists on the Missouri Team are partnership positions supported by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Missouri Dept. of Conservation, and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Abt will work with private landowners in Madison, St. Francois, and Ste. Genevieve counties helping them with wildlife management planning and securing funds to implement those plans.

"We are very excited to welcome Blake to the Missouri team," said Senior Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist Haley Lockard. "His excitement to work with landowners in the field and local knowledge will serve him well promoting wildlife habitat in his communities."

Abt was born and raised in Ste. Genevieve and has gotten to know the area very well. He graduated from Southern Illinois University Carbondale with a B.S. in Zoology with a specialization in Wildlife Biology in 2022. During his time at SIUC, he had many amazing opportunities to work on various research projects and internships. Abt has worked with just about everything ranging from grassland and upland birds, migratory and shore birds, beavers, snakes, and much more. He has a deep love, passion, and appreciation for anything that has to do with the outdoors, wildlife conservation, habitat management.



"I am more than thrilled to be a part of the PFQF team as the Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist in Ste. Genevieve, Madison, and St. Francois counties!" said Abt. "I am looking forward to working alongside partners and affiliates to reintroduce and generate new wildlife habitat in my region!"



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If you are interested in learning how to establish high quality wildlife habitat on your property or incorporate habitat on your working lands, contact Blake Abt at babt@quailforever.org or 573-883-2703.

About Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever

[Pheasants Forever](#), including its quail conservation division — [Quail Forever](#) — make up the nation's largest nonprofit organization dedicated to upland habitat conservation. This community of more than 400,000 members, supporters and partners is dedicated to the protection of our uplands through habitat improvement, public access, education and advocacy. A network of 754 local chapters spread across North America determine how 100 percent of their locally raised funds are spent — the only national conservation organization that operates through this grassroots structure. Since creation in 1982, Pheasants Forever has donated more than \$1 billion to 575,000 habitat projects benefiting 25 million acres. Visit the [Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever in Missouri website](#) or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).