

## **Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever hire Tanner Patton as Grazing Coordinating Wildlife Biologist**

Patton will provide landowners in Missouri with technical assistance focused on grasslands and grazing native forages

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – May 30, 2023** – Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever in Missouri is excited to announce the hiring of Tanner Patton to serve as the Native Grassland & Grazing Coordinating Wildlife Biologist (CWB) position. Patton started his new role on May 8.



This Native Grassland & Grazing CWB partnership position is made possible through a collaborative effort among the Missouri Department of Conservation, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service, Ducks Unlimited, and Quail Forever to further the delivery of the native grassland programs in Missouri. Patton, stationed in Springfield, Mo., will provide grazing and wildlife technical assistance for associated Farm Bill conservation programs to agricultural producers and landowners in Missouri, with a primary focus on priority landscapes. He will also work collaboratively to promote the grazing of native forages by working with local communities, producers, and partner agencies.

"Tanner comes to the Missouri PFQF team with diverse experience, including growing up on a dairy farm and working professionally in the wildlife conservation world," said Missouri State Coordinator Andrew White. "I am eager to see what he will accomplish for native grassland conservation and native grazing programs on operating lands in Missouri."

Patton grew up in a rural farming community in Dade County, Missouri working on his parents rotational grazing dairy operation. There, he developed a passion for farming, hunting, and fishing which led him to College of the Ozarks to earn his B.S. in Ecology and Field Biology. While attending C of O, Patton worked for USDA Wildlife Services where he assisted in wildlife damage mitigation efforts such as trapping and removing feral hogs from around the state. After graduating in 2022, Patton worked for Taney County as an Environmental Specialist before joining the Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever in Missouri team.



"I'm excited to be assisting producers in attaining their goals in a manner that benefits them, the land, and the wildlife," said Patton. "I look forward to the opportunity to learn and engage with both professionals and producers with similar mindsets."

If you are interested in learning more about how our Native Grassland and Grazing Coordinating Wildlife Biologist can assist landowners with grazing native forages, wildlife habitat, and conservation projects on their working lands, contact Tanner Patton at <u>tpatton@quailforever.org</u> or 417-669-8578.

## **About Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever**

<u>Pheasants Forever</u>, including its quail conservation division — <u>Quail Forever</u> — 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 24 million acres. Visit the <u>Pheasants Forever & Quail</u> Forever in Missouri website or follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube.

###