



NEWS RELEASE

Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever promote Haley Lockard & Wes Buchheit to Senior Farm Bill Biologists

Lockard and Buchheit will be the first Senior Farm Bill Wildlife Biologists to serve in Missouri

COLUMBIA, Mo. – November 8, 2021 – Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever in Missouri is excited to announce the promotion of two team members to Senior Farm Bill Wildlife Biologists. Haley Lockard and Wes Buchheit, veteran members of the Missouri team, will be serving in the first ever Senior Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist positions in our state. Both start their new roles on November 8.





All of the 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. Haley, stationed in Kahoka, Mo., will continue to work her local counties of Clark, Lewis, Knox, and Scotland and will now serve as the lead for the northern Farm Bill Wildlife Biologists. Wes, stationed in Jackson, Mo., will continue to work in Perry, Bollinger, and Cape Girardeau counties and will serve as the lead for the southern Farm Bill Wildlife Biologists.

"Haley and Wes have both shown their leadership potential through the years in numerous ways while working for the Habitat Organization," said Missouri State Coordinator Andrew White. "I



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am proud of what they have accomplished so far and look forward to how much more they can do for conservation within the leadership structure in our Missouri Team."

Haley grew up exploring her family's farms in west central Missouri. Her passion for wildlife, hunting, and the mountains lead her west where she received her B.S in Wildlife Biology from the University of Montana. Her wildlife career started with the Missouri Department of Conservation working with the Forestry Division and Deer Program. Haley joined the Quail Forever Team in 2017 as the first Farm Bill Biologist in Oklahoma, then moved back home to Missouri and has served as a Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist II in northeast Missouri for almost 3 years. She works with landowners, producers, and partner organizations to improve wildlife habitat on working lands.

"I'm very excited for the opportunity to lead and develop our incredible staff in northern Missouri," said Haley. "We have a great team of biologists, and I'm looking forward to helping them grow their impact on conservation in our beautiful state."

Wes earned his B.S in Biology from Southeast Missouri State University and M.S. in Natural Resources, Fisheries & Wildlife from the University of Missouri. He comes into this position with over five years' experience providing technical service to landowners, four of which have been with "The Habitat Organization" and two serving as the lead for the southern Missouri team members. Wes resides in Perryville, MO with his wife, Lauren, and son, Leo. They enjoy spending time outdoors camping, hunting, and completing habitat projects on the family farm.

"I am honored and excited to serve our team in this leadership role," said Wes. "We have an outstanding team and I look forward to our continued accomplishments on the Missouri landscape."

If you are interested in learning more about how our Farm Bill Wildlife Biologists can work with landowners to establish high quality wildlife habitat on their property or incorporate habitat on their working lands, contact Haley at hlockard@quailforever.org or 816-868-7607, or Wes at wbuchheit@quailforever.org or 573-517-8860.

About Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever

<u>Pheasants Forever</u>, including its quail conservation division — <u>Quail Forever</u> — is the nation's largest nonprofit organization dedicated to upland habitat conservation. Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever have more than 138,000 members and 760 local chapters across the United States and Canada. Since creation in 1982, Pheasants Forever has spent over \$900 million on 550,000 habitat projects benefiting 19 million acres nationwide. Visit the <u>Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever in Missouri website</u> or follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube.