



The Habitat Organization

NEWS RELEASE

Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever's Shaw Nature Reserve Habitat Crew Adds New Habitat Specialist in Missouri

The habitat specialist crew conducts habitat management work, emphasizing prescribed fire on cooperating lands.

Gray Summit, MO – August 25, 2025 –

Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever are excited to announce the hiring of Alex Ilgenfritz as the newest Crew Member of the Shaw Nature Reserve Habitat Crew in Missouri.

The Habitat Specialist Crew Member positions are part of a unique partnership between the Missouri Department of Conservation, Shaw Nature Reserve, and Quail Forever. They are supported by generous donations from Nestlé Purina, Steve and Jeanne Maritz, and Roeslein Alternative Energy.

In his new position, Ilgenfritz will work as part of the crew and collaborate with partners to organize and implement practices for managing wildlife habitats on cooperating lands, focusing on the use of prescribed fire.

Returning close to home, Alex is originally from St. Charles, Missouri. He received his bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Arkansas. Before joining Quail Forever, he worked for NRCS and as a habitat restoration contractor in northeast Kansas.



"I'm looking forward to the burn season and seeing how much habitat our crew can put on the ground." Said Alex.

"We are thrilled to have Alex join the crew! He brings a variety of habitat management experience and knowledge of local ecology. His eagerness and desire to work and create quality habitat in the state will prove to be a great asset to the team. I greatly look forward to watching Alex's career progress with Quail Forever!" said Habitat Crew Leader Bennett Peterson



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If you have questions about the habitat specialist crew in Missouri, contact Habitat Restoration Manager Dylan Jacobs at djacobs@quailforever.org or 419-346-3139

About Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever

[Pheasants Forever](#) and [Quail Forever](#) make up the nation's largest nonprofit organization dedicated to upland habitat conservation. This community of more than 420,000 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 its creation in 1982, the organization has dedicated more than \$1 billion to 580,000 habitat projects benefiting 26.5 million acres.