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NEWS RELEASE

Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever Promote Bennett Peterson as Habitat Specialist Crew Leader for the Shaw Habitat Crew

Peterson will lead the Shaw Habitat Specialist Crew in Missouri while conducting habitat management work, emphasizing prescribed fire on cooperating lands.

Gray Summit, Mo – March 24, 2025—Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever in Missouri are excited to announce that the team's own Bennett Peterson was promoted to Habitat Specialist Crew Leader. His expanded duties will further assist the team by providing guidance and leadership to the Shaw Habitat Specialist Crew.

The Habitat Specialist Crew 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, Peterson will lead the crew and collaborate with partners to organize and implement practices for managing wildlife habitats on cooperating lands, focusing on using prescribed fire.

"Ben has excelled in his position as a crew member for the Shaw Habitat Crew by pushing himself to not only work hard but also build his knowledge base in fire and habitat management, said Habitat Restoration Manager Dylan Jacobs.

"I'm excited for him to take the reins as crew lead

where he will work with landowners and partners to lead various habitat improvement projects."



Ben grew up in southwest Missouri where he developed a passion for nature at a young age. His general love for the outdoors led him to pursue a career in conservation that has taken him across the western United States and inspired him to pursue a degree in Applied Wildland Fire Science. Peterson was drawn back to Missouri due to his eagerness to improve the habitat he enjoyed as a kid and continues to enjoy today. In August of 2024, Ben joined Quail Forever as a Habitat Specialist. It was in this role that he learned a great amount about Missouri's landscape and prescribed fire. In his new position, he is eager to share this information and contribute to fire application as well as other conservation efforts within his community.



“I am incredibly grateful to work alongside such a dedicated team. I cannot wait to further the positive impact this crew and organization has had on conservation,” said Peterson.

If you have questions about the habitat specialist crews 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.