



# PHEASANTS FOREVER & QUAIL FOREVER

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## NEWS RELEASE

### **Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever and partners hire Wildlife Biologist to help Mount Vernon area landowners**

Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist to serve Barton, Dade, Jasper and Lawrence counties

**MOUNT VERNON, Mo. – March 19, 2021** – Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever in Missouri is proud to announce the team’s own Ethan Kleekamp was hired for the Mount Vernon, Mo., Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist II position. He started his new position March 1.

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. Ethan will work with private landowners in Barton, Dade, Jasper and Lawrence counties helping them with wildlife management planning and securing funds to help implement those plans.



“Ethan brings a practical, landowner-focused mindset to his position and will hit the ground running,” said Missouri State Coordinator, Casey Bergthold. “With a strong partner and chapter network in the area, we can’t wait to see all Ethan accomplishes as he works to help farmers improve their operations and their quail habitat.”

Ethan earned a B.S. in Biology from Truman State University before pursuing an M.S. in Natural Resources from the University of Missouri - Columbia. He joined the Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever team in May 2018 as a Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist and previously worked out of the Richmond, Mo., USDA office before moving into his new role in Mount Vernon.



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“I am incredibly thrilled and honored to be serving Southwest Missouri’s landowners as their new Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist”, Kleekamp said. “This transition puts me squarely within the Working Lands for Wildlife landscape where I can help optimize acres for both wildlife and cattle production. I look forward to working with the new people, partners, and the unique flora and fauna this part of the state has to offer”.

If you are interested in learning how to establish high quality wildlife habitat on your property or incorporate habitat on your working lands, contact Ethan at [ekleekamp@quailforever.org](mailto:ekleekamp@quailforever.org) or 636-667-1444.

### About Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever

[Pheasants Forever](#), including its quail conservation division — [Quail Forever](#) — 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 [Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever in Missouri website](#) or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).

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