

## **Biological Science Technician Vacancy, Cypress Creek National Wildlife Refuge, Ullin, IL**

The vacancy announcement for the Biological Science Technician (General), GS- 0404-5 at Cypress Creek NWR in Ullin, IL is open from December 12 to December 19, 2022 on USAJOBS with vacancy announcement number TS-23-11738567-BV-DE. <https://www.usajobs.gov/job/693161200#>

If you are looking for a new opportunity in a great location, then this is it.

Cypress Creek National Wildlife Refuge is a 17,000 acre refuge located in southernmost Illinois, covering parts of Alexander, Johnson, Pulaski and Union Counties. The Refuge was established in 1990. Cypress Creek is open to the public with the exception of the Frank Bellrose Waterfowl Reserve which covers 1000 acres within the Refuge. This area is managed for, and provides sanctuary to waterfowl, shorebirds and other migratory birds. The Refuge is complexed with the 44,000 acre Crab Orchard NWR.



Cypress Creek NWR lies between the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers within the Cache River watershed, designated as Ramsar Wetland of International Importance. This portion of southern Illinois is situated at the intersection of 4 physiographic regions; this unique geography contributes to the overall biodiversity of the Refuge and the surrounding area. This area houses the most diverse communities of bottomland tree species in the state; including bald cypress trees that are hundreds of years old. This region contains 91% of the state's high quality swamp and wetland communities, plus a wide array of waterfowl, wading birds and Neotropical songbirds. Researchers in this area have catalogued 128 species of breeding songbirds, 49 species of mammals, 32 amphibians, 43 reptiles, 84 freshwater fish, 47 native mussels, and 34 crustacean species.

The goals of Cypress Creek are to protect, restore and manage wetland and forested areas according to the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. The refuge provides high quality habitat for waterfowl and other wildlife, as well as many threatened and endangered species. The Refuge strives to support biodiversity and provide the public with opportunities for environmental education and recreational activities such as hunting, fishing, bird watching and nature photography.

The refuge is located in near Ullin Illinois and is 35 miles south of the cities of Carbondale and Marion IL, 40 miles northwest of Paducah KY, and 30 miles east of Cape Girardeau, MO which provide all necessary amenities.

### **Climate:**

One can experience all four seasons in the southern Illinois region with an average of 3" of snow per year and temperatures rarely below 0 degrees. Summer days are sunny and humid with highs in the 80's – 90's, rarely topping 100. Spring weather can occur as early as February, and fall weather can extend into November.

### **Recreational and Cultural Activities:**

With a mix of communities and towns, varying in population, Southern Illinois offers a rural environment with easy access to shopping and entertainment opportunities. Marion and Carbondale, IL along with Paducah, KY, offer shopping malls, movie theaters and several locally owned and operated restaurants along with major chain and fast-food restaurants. Wineries and breweries are adding to tourism in the

area.

Whether you're a barbecue fan, blues lover, outdoor recreational enthusiast, lover of small town life or big city adventurer, southern Illinois truly provides something for everyone. Endless outdoor recreation opportunities await on the nearly 400,000 acres of public land in Southern Illinois. There are excellent opportunities for deer, turkey, and waterfowl hunting, fishing, boating, horseback riding, and hiking. There are numerous concerts, lectures, and events sponsored by area colleges, universities, and civic organizations.

Contact Refuge Manager Benjamin McGuire at [Benjamin\\_McGuire@fws.gov](mailto:Benjamin_McGuire@fws.gov) or 618-634-2231 for more information.