I would be very grateful if you can make this informal, non-official announcement available to people you may consider interested and qualified. Our interest is attracting highly qualified candidates to fill this vacancy, and your help in making this opportunity known within your circles is very valuable.

**An announcement of a permanent federal position with the USDA, National Identification Services (NIS), will be released soon, possibly as early as the next few weeks (August 2023). This is for a single post as Malacologist (Zoologist) to serve as National Taxonomist (Mollusca) within NIS.** The incumbent will work with the NIS Malacology Laboratory (3 people total, and their supervisor), whose main mission is to perform taxonomic identifications of mollusks samples of global origin, originating from commerce entering at ports across the USA, as well as from domestic programs, and to participate in the development of training materials related to identification, biology, and ecology of mollusks. The focus is mainly on terrestrial snails and slugs, and some freshwater. Opportunities for engagement in other areas of interest and expertise are possible and desirable, within the context of the Laboratory’s and NIS’s missions. Additional responsibilities within NIS are to be expected.

The position will be announced soon, possibly August, in the federal job announcements venue, **USAJOBS**; the open period for receiving applications will be short (typically a week or so). I don’t have additional information, but I (and my supervisors) would be happy to answer general questions about the position.