NATURAL RESOURCE SPECIALIST (RECREATION SPECIAL USES) GS-0401-9/11

Outreach for Permanent Position

Are you looking for that next challenging but yet rewarding job? The Idaho Panhandle National Forests is seeking outreach for highly skilled, motivated, and talented candidates to fill two Recreation Special Uses Specialists (GS 9/11) positions under a Forest-wide “Center of Excellence” concept with multiple duty stations. The purpose of this outreach is to inform prospective applicants of this upcoming opportunity and to determine interest in the position, including duty station, and grade level eligibility of potential applicants.

Outreach Response

If you have questions regarding this position or are interested, please contact Josh Jurgensen, Forest Recreation Program Manager at 208-765-7214 or via email at josh.jurgensen@usda.gov.

Interested candidates should respond to this outreach with the following form filled out and a brief resume by August 9th, 2019.
Introduction

The Idaho Panhandle National Forests (IPNF) has recently adopted a Sustainable Recreation Strategy that positions the Forest through a leveraged organization, to take advantage of unique funding opportunities to deliver a sustainable recreation program. Part of the IPNF’s Sustainable Recreation Strategy is to manage our Recreation Special Uses under a “Center of Excellence” concept. This model will provide increased capacity and allow us to appropriately respond to permit holders, the needs of the public, applicants, and focus on communication consistency.

Primary Duties

Position #1

- **Concessionaire Permit Administration of the Iconic Route of the Hiawatha (RoH) Rail-Trail** – This special place has been called the “Crown Jewel” of rail trails and has been inducted into the national Rail-Trail Hall of Fame by the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy. This scenic 14 miles route winds through the Forest along the abandoned Milwaukee Railroad grade through the 1.7 mile St. Paul Pass Tunnel as well as 8 other tunnels, and over 7 high steel trestles. Complexity and demand continue to increase due to its location and popularity. More information about the concessions can be found at [https://www.ridethehiawatha.com/](https://www.ridethehiawatha.com/)

- **Permit Administration of Lookout Ski Resort** – This ski resort is located at Lookout Pass and is currently undergoing an expansion. Use has increased by a 1/3 over the past five years and will continue to increase once expansion is complete. The holder of the ski resort is the same holder of the RoH concessions permit. More information about Lookout Pass Ski Resort can be found at [https://skilookout.com/](https://skilookout.com/)

- **Permit Administration of Fernan Rod & Gun Club** - [http://www.frgc.org/](http://www.frgc.org/)
Position #2

- Permit Administration of the IPNF’s Campground Concessions Permit – This permit includes all aspects of permit administration of a campground concessions permit across the Northern and Central part of the Forest. The permit includes 15 developed campgrounds with numerous day use areas, group sites, dump stations, and a waste water management system. Campground complexity varies from a seven site, vault toilet, and well pump to an 82 site, flush toilet, and waste water system. More information about the permit holder can be found at https://www.sceniccanyons.com/

- Permit Administration of 138 Recreation Residences
- Permit Administration of Lake Based Resorts and a Marina
- May serve as an Acting District Ranger in a Staff Rotation
Both Positions

- Be willing to work across resource and district boundaries, be part of a dynamic and challenging Forest and provide innovative solutions!
- Maintain and enhance relationships with partners, permit holders, and other stakeholders
- Provide expertise, leadership, and administration of Outfitter & Guides, Recreation Events, and other uses.
- Participate in the Forest’s Recreation working group and Program of Work discussions

About the Idaho Panhandle National Forests

The IPNF is comprised of 2.5 million acres of public lands which lie within "the panhandle" of north Idaho and extend into eastern Washington and western Montana. The Forests are an aggregation of the Coeur d'Alene and portions of the Kaniksu and St. Joe National Forests. There are eight local points of contact including the Supervisor's Office, six district offices and the Coeur d'Alene Nursery. The Forest is within nine counties in three states: Boundary, Bonner, Benewah, Kootenai, Shoshone, Latah and Clearwater Counties in Idaho; Lincoln County in Montana; and Pend Oreille County in Washington.

The IPNF is known for its water based recreation and substantial road and trail infrastructure. A newly signed Forest Plan creates opportunities for the IPNF to accomplish Landscape Scale Restoration Projects across the northern part of the State. Reforestation, Restoration, and Recreation are integrated in planning and implementation as we continue to evolve with our urban and rural communities.

Please refer to the Forest web site at http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/ for more information
**About the Communities**

**Coeur d’Alene**

The Idaho Panhandle National Forests’ Supervisors Office is located in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, a full-service community of over 40,000 people. Approximately 130,000 people live in Kootenai County. Located on the northern shore of Lake Coeur d’Alene, the city is 100 miles south of the Canadian border, 33 miles east of Spokane, Washington, and an hour’s drive from the Montana state line. There are four distinct seasons, with summer average highs and lows of 82 degrees and 51 degrees; and average winter temperatures from 38 degrees and 26 degrees, with consistent amounts of snowfall.

Higher education opportunities are available. North Idaho College (NIC) is located in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, and 30 miles to the west of Coeur d'Alene, in Spokane, Washington, several colleges provide higher education opportunities. Moscow, Idaho is 80 miles south of Coeur d'Alene, and is the home of the University of Idaho. Washington State University is located just eight miles west of Moscow in Pullman, Washington, and Gonzaga University is located 33 miles away in Spokane. NIC, U of I, and other universities offer adult education classes in Coeur d'Alene and Post Falls. There are several high schools within 5 miles of the office. There are many grade schools, middle schools and opportunities for private schooling exist in the area as well as in Spokane. Community day care and caregivers in private homes are readily available.

Health care services include a full service hospital, physicians, dentist, chiropractors, optometrists, physical therapist, and mental health services at the Kootenai Medical Center. There is a modern library with excellent reference and checkout books, and access to other libraries for patron-requested books. A local museum and historical society chronicle the area's history.

Spokane International Airport is located just 40 miles west of Coeur d'Alene.

**Smelterville**

The Silver Valley is a beautiful area following the South Fork of the Coeur d'Alene River and comprised of several communities along the I-90 corridor. An area rich in mining and logging history, there are a number of local museums and organizations seeking to preserve and interpret this rich legacy. While the office is located in Smelterville, there are numerous communities in the valley including Kingston, Pinehurst, Kellogg, Osburn, Silverton, Mullan and Wallace (also the Shoshone County seat) which are all within a 15-20 minute drive. Approximately 30 miles to the west is Coeur d'Alene, a full service community of approximately 40,000 people, and another 30 miles west of there is Spokane, WA. There are four distinct and wonderful seasons in the Silver Valley.
**Nordman**

The Priest Lake Ranger Station near Nordman, ID is located 32 miles north of the Priest River on State Highway 57, and approximately one hour from Sandpoint ID. Larger population centers of Coeur d’ Alene and Spokane are about two hour drive from the office. The Priest Lake community (Nordman and Coolin) is an ideal year round place to visit and live. The spectacular backdrop coupled with the myriad of available recreation opportunities make the area a four season destination.

In addition to the lake and water-sport activities (including fishing season, open from mid-April through November), other recreational opportunities are numerous. Summer activities include camping and picnicking at 13 developed campgrounds and two picnic grounds, hiking of 200 miles of trail system (with many well-marked hiking trails leading to acres of wild huckleberries and mushrooms), horseback riding, and float-trips down Priest River.

Elevations vary from 2000 feet to over 7,500 feet. Vegetation is extremely diverse - from boreal and coastal conditions to plant species and communities commonly found in the interior Northern Rockies. Weather is moderate. In a relatively normal year there are only a few days where temperatures will drop below zero in the winter or climb above 90 degrees during the summer. Summer nights are generally cool.

Limited housing is available within the community. There is a Forest Service residential compound at the Ranger Station plus bunkhouse living quarters. A trailer site is available on the compound for a singlewide mobile home owner.

For additional community information for both positions, browse:

- [https://www.cdaid.org/](https://www.cdaid.org/)
- [https://www.coeurdalene.org/](https://www.coeurdalene.org/)
- [https://www.kcgov.us/](https://www.kcgov.us/)
- [www.silvervalleychamber.com](http://www.silvervalleychamber.com)
- [https://www.priestlake.org/](https://www.priestlake.org/)
- [https://visitnorthidaho.com/](https://visitnorthidaho.com/)

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN THIS VACANCY
Natural Resource Specialist (Recreation Special Uses) GS-401-9/11, Permanent
Idaho Panhandle National Forests
USDA Forest Service, R1-Northern Region

Please circle preferred duty station for Recreation Special Uses Position #1

Interested candidates should respond to this outreach with the following form filled out and a brief resume by **August 9th, 2019.**

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Current Employer

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<th>USDA FS</th>
<th>Unit:</th>
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If Federal Employee, Type of Appointment

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<th>Temporary</th>
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<tr>
<td>Current Position Title:</td>
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How did you hear about this position?

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Positions Interested In: Locations

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<tr>
<th>Position #1</th>
<th>Coeur d’ Alene</th>
<th>Smelterville</th>
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<tr>
<td>Position #2</td>
<td>Nordman</td>
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Preferred Location for Position #1:

If not a current permanent employee, are you eligible to be hired under any of the following special authorities?

- Schedule A (persons with disabilities)
- Veterans Recruitment Act (ARA)
- Veterans with 30% Compensable Disability
- Veterans Employment Opportunities Act (VEOA) of 1998
- Former Peace Corps Volunteer
- Pathways Program (Students, Interns and Recent Graduates)
- Public Land Corps (PLC)
- Land Management Workforce Flexibility Act (Temporary/Term Land Management Agency Employees)
- Other: `<please elaborate>`