



U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service
Employment Outreach Notice



Forest Inventory and Analysis
Resource Monitoring and Assessment Program
Pacific Northwest Research Station, Anchorage Alaska

Assistant Coordinator, Biological Scientist, GS-0401-07/09
Permanent Full-Time

Duty Station: Anchorage, AK
Alternative/Virtual Duty Station may be considered

See OPM guidelines for wage information:
<http://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/>

PLEASE REPLY by 5pm AKST April 07, 2021

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THIS POSITION send a completed outreach response form and your resume to:

Kate Legner (907-242-8716), Data Collection Coordinator, at (kate.legner@usda.gov) using the subject line "PNW-FIA Outreach Response"

The purpose of this outreach notice is to inform prospective applicants of this upcoming opportunity, determine the potential applicant pool, and establish the appropriate recruitment method and area of consideration for the vacancy announcement. ***This outreach may also be used to identify candidates for possible non-competitive reassignment to a position.*** Responses and resumes received from this outreach notice will be relied upon to make these determinations.

Assistant Coordinator (GS-0401-07/09)

The incumbent will function primarily as an office-based FIA assistant coordinator in support of the three FIA programs conducted out of the Anchorage Forestry Science Lab: Pacific Islands, Interior Alaska and Coastal Alaska. The Assistant Coordinator is a member of the Anchorage-based Data Collection leadership team, supervised by a Data Collection Coordinator. Responsibilities include assisting coordinators with administrative functions such as planning, staffing, contract management, and logistics coordination. The position will be primarily responsible for year-round fieldwork preparation duties including organizing and managing spatial data, utilizing GIS to produce simple maps, coordinate upcoming field work and related permits with landowners, and produce communications related products on an as-needed basis. This position is also responsible for the assistance in the development, review, and implementation of field and aviation safety plans as well as emergency response preparedness plans.

The majority of the work will be performed in an office environment but there may be potential to visit field sites to gain familiarity or assist with ongoing data collection.

We are looking for individuals who possess:

- Strong organizational skills including administrative and spatial data management.
- A background in using ESRI products to produce maps, conduct photo interpretation, and manage spatial datasets.
- A positive customer service attitude and strong work ethic.
- A desire to accomplish a common goal as a team player.
- Can manage multiple priorities and solve problems independently in a fast-paced work environment.
- Excellent people skills and works well with diverse groups and cultures.

ABOUT THE POSITIONS

Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) is a nationwide program which collects, processes, analyzes, evaluates, and publishes comprehensive information on forest and other related renewable resources. The Anchorage Forestry Sciences Lab (AFSL) is part of the US Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station (PNWRS), and is responsible for the inventory of Alaska, Hawaii, and US affiliated Pacific islands. The Alaska FIA program conducts forest inventories and forest health monitoring on forestlands of all land ownerships. FIA installs permanent research plots that are measured on a 10-year cycle. A wide range of forestry variables are collected on each plot in addition to forest health measurements that can include vegetation, lichens, soils, fuels, and crown measurements. The inventory data are widely used by forest managers, local and state governments and federal agencies in making policy decisions.

Alaska contains a wide diversity of ecological communities ranging from coastal temperate rain forests to mixed boreal hardwood forests and includes expansive black spruce bogs. Extensive areas of alpine tundra, shrub land, high peaks, and glaciers occupy the non-forest areas. Field work conditions in Alaska are often arduous. Work will primarily be performed in an office environment but some fieldwork may be required in inclement weather (cold, rain, snow), on steep, slippery, and/or brushy slopes, and in the presence of moose, bear, wolves, and biting insects. Travel for fieldwork may require access via small aircraft including float planes and helicopters, and occasionally boats.

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY

Anchorage is a full-service community nestled between the Chugach Mountains and the upper shores of Cook Inlet in the heart of Alaska's south-central Gulf coast. With a diverse population of close to 300,000, Anchorage is a hub of most cultural, educational, and recreational activities in Alaska. Anchorage offers most of the amenities and cultural activities found in much larger cities (Museum of History and Art, Performing Art Center, Native Heritage Center, music and film festivals, shopping centers [no sales tax!], and several large hospitals) but maintains a rustic feeling.

There are several universities and colleges in the immediate area. Anchorage has many public elementary and secondary schools, as well as private schools and day care facilities. It is central to many recreational opportunities. The city trail system is rated one of the best in the country and it offers a sense of wilderness within the city limits.

There are more than 75 miles of groomed cross-country skiing, hiking, and biking trails (25 miles are lighted) in town. There are also more than 70 ball fields, 5 golf courses, and many small parks, ice rinks and playgrounds.

It is said that "Anchorage is only 10 minutes from Alaska" which is a testament to it being a full fledge city on the edge of vast wildernesses. A multitude of backcountry hikes, rides, skiing, and kayaking await at the edge of town. The city is also home to abundant wildlife. Moose are a common sight anywhere in town. Bears, wolves, Dall sheep, lynx, and beluga whales can be seen in the mountains above town or during a breathtaking drive down Turnagain arm.

For even more information on the Anchorage area check out: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anchorage,_Alaska

This is a pre-announcement only. When the position is advertised, the announcement will be posted on the USA Jobs web site: www.usajobs.gov. The announcement will contain all of the information you need to apply for the position.

To be considered, applicants must be U.S. citizens.

The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to determine the potential applicant pool for this position and to establish an appropriate recruitment method and area of consideration for the vacancy announcement (Region-wide, Service-wide, USDA-wide, Government-wide, and/or DEMO). Responses received from this outreach notice will be relied upon to make these determinations.

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