**Northern Region Forest Service**

**Regional Office – Ecosystem Planning Staff**

**Staff Economist**

**GS-0110-9/11/12**

**Detail/Temp Promotion/Permanent**

**Outreach Notice**

The USDA Forest Service, Northern Region, is seeking a candidate to serve as our Staff Economist (GS-0110-9/11/12). This position will be part of the Ecosystem Planning staff in the Regional Office, as a member of the Social Science and Economics program.

This outreach is *not* a vacancy announcement, but direct hire authorities and lateral transfers will be considered. If you are interested in this position, please respond on the following Outreach Interest Form and submit a resume by September 8, 2023.

**Duty Station**: Duty station will be determined upon selection, but generally within a 4-hour drive of the Regional Office in Missoula, MT.

**Major Duties**

* Serve as economics subject matter expert.
* Provide expert guidance and advice to the field on conducting economic impact analysis in compliance with NEPA, NFMA, and/or other applicable laws, regulations, and policies.
* Assist the units throughout the region with project- and plan-level socioeconomic analyses and monitoring reports.
* Collaborate on training needs and answer technical questions from colleagues throughout the Forest Service.
* Respond to public comments, serve on objections panels and address economics contentions.
* Conduct research and/or manage contracts and agreements with partners to assess supply and demand of goods and services, both market and non-market, in the Northern Region.
* This is a non-supervisory position.

**Contact**

To request further information about this position, please contact:

Colin Sorenson – Regional Economist  
USDA Forest Service, Northern Region  
26 Fort Missoula Road  
Missoula, MT 59804

Phone: 406-214-6575 (cell)   
E-mail: [colin.sorenson@usda.gov](mailto:colin.sorenson@usda.gov)

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THIS POSITION, PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THE ATTACHED INTEREST FORM AND SUBMIT A RESUME BY** September 8, 2023

**Northern Region Information**

The Northern Region of the Forest Service consists of approximately 25 million acres of national forest land distributed within the state of Montana, Idaho north of the Salmon River, and portions of South Dakota and northeastern Washington. The Dakota Prairie Grasslands is located in North and South Dakota.

The Region is predominantly rural in nature with several small towns/cities serving as cultural hubs. There are no cities larger than 150,000 residents, and all metropolitan areas are moderate in population. Outdoor recreation, including hunting, fishing, skiing and snowboarding, hiking/camping, photography, wildlife viewing, site-seeing and other outdoor related pursuits are common activities of this area.

The northern Rocky Mountains form the backdrop of the western portion of the region, while the vast northern grasslands exist in the east. The upper Columbia River basin drains the west and the Missouri River basin in the east. Mountain ranges exist throughout the region, apart from the grasslands, and vary from steep, alpine peaks to moderate rolling mountains. Broad inter-mountain valleys are a key characteristic of much of the region.

**The Community**

Missoula, Montana draws people from diverse backgrounds. Missoula is nestled in the Rocky Mountains of western Montana. This scenic city is bustling with activity, as western Montana's regional source for business, culture, medical services, retail, and entertainment. There are endless opportunities for fishing, thousands of miles of trails, and plenty of guides and shops to clue you in on the hot spots. With an area population of more than 70,000, Missoula has what you'd expect to find in a big city--a wide range of hotels, restaurants, shops and galleries, several museums, a ballet company, live theater and a symphony. It's also home to The University of Montana, laid-back coffee houses, historic bars and cozy bookstores. As a natural outdoor playground it's unparalleled, and yet Missoula is one of the most dynamic cultural centers in the Northwest. Missoula is a major retail and medical hub in Western Montana and claims one of the nation's highest doctors to patient ratios. A wide variety of specialty, discount, and budget shopping centers make Missoula the retail hub for an estimated 200-mile radius. The Missoula school system is considered excellent with three public and two private high schools, numerous elementary schools, a College of Technology and the University of Montana.

Missoula serves a trade area in excess of 300,000 and therefore, has more amenities and services than most cities of its size. The foundations of Missoula's economic base are wood and paper products, Federal Government, motor carriers and the University. There is a great diversity of neighborhoods and residential settings within the community and surrounding area ranging from urban to very rural.

There are an abundance of recreation facilities and opportunities located in and around the Missoula area. These include: public golf courses, parks, tennis courts, swimming pools, health clubs, racquetball courts, YMCA, softball diamonds, hiking trails, ice skating rink. There are many rivers in the area for rafting, fishing and swimming. Snowbowl ski area is less than an hour's drive from town and within a two-hour drive are Discovery, Lost Trail and Lookout Pass. Also close to Missoula are numerous cross country ski trails, and snowmobile trails.

Missoula has two large hospitals, which provide a full array of inpatient and outpatient services. Missoula has many other health care practitioners to offer.

Missoula residents enjoy all four seasons of the year. The elevation is 3,205, with an average annual temperature of 45 F, with a January daily minimum of 15.5 F. and July daily maximum of 83.4 F. The growing season averages 137 days, an average mean rainfall of 13.5 inches, and an average mean snowfall of 42.5 inches.

Montana has personal income tax and property tax, but NO sales tax.

* If you would like more information on Montana please visit:

<http://www.visitmt.com/>

**OUTREACH INTEREST FORM**

**Please respond with your resume by September 8, 2023**

**Detail/Temporary Promotion & Permanent Position   
Regional Economist GS-0110-12**

**Ecosystem Planning Staff, Regional Office  
26 Fort Missoula Rd, Missoula, MT 59804**

**NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN (select all that apply):**

**PERMANENT \_\_\_\_\_DETAIL \_\_\_\_\_ TEMP PROM (120 days) \_\_\_\_\_**

**TYPE OF APPOINTMENT IF CURRENT GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE:**

**PERMANENT \_\_\_\_\_TEMPORARY \_\_\_\_\_ TERM \_\_\_\_\_ VRA \_\_\_\_\_ PWD \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_ None\_\_\_\_\_**

**CURRENT REGION/FOREST/DISTRICT (or other agency): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**CURRENT SERIES AND GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**CURRENT POSITION TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**IF NOT A CURRENT PERMANENT (CAREER OR CAREER CONDITIONAL) EMPLOYEE, ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO BE HIRED UNDER ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL AUTHORITIES?**

**\_\_\_\_\_ PERSON WITH DISABILITIES**

**\_\_\_\_\_ VETERANS READJUSTMENT**

**\_\_\_\_\_ DISABLED VETERANS W/30% COMPENSABLE DISABILITY**

**\_\_\_\_\_ VETERANS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES ACT OF 1998**

**\_\_\_\_\_ FORMER PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER**

**\_\_\_\_\_ STUDENT CAREER EXPERIENCE PROGRAM**

**\_\_\_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**