

Sheyenne Ranger District – Lisbon, ND

Medora Ranger District – Dickinson, ND

McKenzie Ranger District – Watford City, ND

Now hiring! We have vacancies in our Range Program applying ecosystem management with livestock grazing.

The Range positions on the Dakota Prairie Grasslands work to manage the largest rangeland grazing program in the U.S. Forest Service managing 1.2 million acres of mixed grass prairie or tallgrass prairie landscape. These positions are challenging and demanding, offering a great professional opportunity for highly motivated individuals interested in building well rounded experience and advancing their careers.

#### Vacancies to Fill:

Position	Job Series & Grade	Duty Stations	Government Housing Available
Rangeland Management Specialist	GS-0454-5/7/9	Dickinson, ND	Yes
Rangeland Management Specialist	GS-0454-5/7/9	Watford City, ND	Yes
Rangeland Management Specialist	GS-0454-5/7/9	Lisbon, ND	No

# TO EXPRESS INTEREST IN THESE POSITIONS OR FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THESE OPPORTUNITIES PLEASE CONTACT:

 Dakota Prairie Grasslands Range Program Manager – Stacy Swenson at <a href="mailto:stacy.swenson@usda.gov">stacy.swenson@usda.gov</a>, 701-680-1578

All positions will be advertised on <a href="https://www.USAjobs.gov">www.USAjobs.gov</a>.





## A Few Reasons to Join the DPG Team...

- Join a team of highly qualified professionals working on emerging issues and application of cutting-edge resource management techniques and practices.
- Unique and spectacular landscapes that are home to communities that maintain a sense of pride and a hometown feel.
- The ability to manage one of the most threatened biomes on the planet; only two percent of the original Grasslands are left in North America.
- Experience the thrilling challenges of implementing resource management practices, as well as watershed restoration within a mixed ownership pattern uniquely consisting of National Forest System, state-, and privately-owned lands.
- A diverse variety of resources to manage, including paleontological, archeological, cattle grazing and oil and gas production. These programs are some of the largest in the Nation offering challenges and rewards not found elsewhere.
- Professional development opportunities that will likely set your resume apart from your peers.
- These communities abound with people who are involved and provide a place for folks to thrive.
- Opportunity abounds to help shape the DPG as a fairly new organization within the Forest Service.

### The Grasslands

The Dakota Prairie Grasslands were created in 1998 as a separate unit in response to the increased visibility and issues surrounding National Grasslands. A supervisor's office is located in Bismarck, ND. The Dakota Prairie Grasslands has four district offices. The Medora RD (Dickinson, ND) and the McKenzie RD (Watford City, ND) administer the Little Missouri National Grassland. The Sheyenne RD (Lisbon, ND) administers the Sheyenne National Grassland. The Grand River RD (Lemmon, SD) administers the Grand River and Cedar River Grasslands. The Dakota Prairie Grasslands (DPG) is located in eastern and western North Dakota and northwestern South Dakota. The DPG is approximately 1.2 million acres of federal lands, intermingled with other federal, state, and private lands with an approximate 2.9-million-acre administrative boundary. The DPG supports the largest range program and one of the largest Oil/Gas programs in the US Forest Service.

The McKenzie and Medora Ranger Districts, located in western North Dakota, comprise the Little Missouri National Grassland (LMNG), the largest and most diverse Grassland in the nation. The LMNG administers over 1,000,000 acres of rugged badlands, high buttes, woody draws and upland plateaus of rolling prairies. As the largest block of public land in the state, these two districts are considered to be one of North Dakota's most important wildlife lands. They support populations of elk, bighorn sheep, whitetail and mule deer, wild turkey, waterfowl, prairie dogs, antelope, upland game birds, raptors, and numerous songbirds. The Little Missouri River bisects the McKenzie and Medora Ranger Districts and has been designated a scenic river by the state of North Dakota.

The Grand River Ranger District is located in northwestern South Dakota. It has a land area of 154,783 acres in Perkins, Corson, and Ziebach counties. The Cedar River National Grassland is approximately 6,717 acres and is located in southwestern North Dakota in Grant and Sioux counties.

The Sheyenne Ranger District is located in southeastern North Dakota and includes the Sheyenne National Grassland which encompasses approximately 70,200 aces of tallgrass prairie and oak savannah located in Ransom and Richland Counties. There are several recreational opportunities such as hunting, hiking, horseback riding, nature observation, primitive camping and even some canoeing and fishing along the Sheyenne River. The district is home to many listed and sensitive species and abounds with diversity across the prairie.









# **Dickinson** and **Watford City** are both progressive cities, having undergone strong exponential growth over the past recent years, fueled by a diverse economy and fed by new wealth from energy, agriculture and manufacturing. Population of the two is different with Watford City near 9,000 and Dickinson over 20,000, but both communities have retained their small-town warmth and charm while embracing substantial growth during the last 10 years.

Watford City is located about 183 miles northwest of the capitol city of Bismarck and Dickinson is about 100 miles due West of Bismarck. Both cities are service and shopping "hubs" for areas of western North Dakota and eastern Montana. The school systems in both are considered to be good to excellent with Watford City benefiting from brand new school buildings as well.

Dickinson State University is located in Dickinson and Williston City College is a short 45 minutes from Watford City. The cities have 36 churches between the two of them, representing most denominations (10 churches in Watford and 26 in Dickinson). There are several medical clinics in each city with full trauma care hospitals located in Dickinson and in Williston, near Watford City.

## The McKenzie and Medora Ranger Districts

Positions on the two districts are exciting opportunities and will provide the incumbents with challenging and rewarding experiences in one of the most beautiful Grassland locations in the Nation, the Little Missouri National Grassland. Each district range team is made up of a Range Staff supervisor, 4 Rangeland Management Specialists, a seasonal Range Technician, a Range Intern, and 2-3 temporary personnel. The two districts together comprise the bulk of the DPG's Range Program acreage, working with 4 different Grazing Associations and managing over 1,000,000 acres of NFS lands. These districts also have large Oil & Gas, Fire, and Recreation & Trails programs and have wildlife biology, archeology, hydrology, and botany specialists in-unit.



Walking Trail in Dickinson



**Badlands Dinosaur Museum** 



**Dickinson State University** 

The ND climate is well known for its challenges, but for these two cities is considered to be the garden spot of North Dakota, with a mean January temperature of 17°F and a mean July temperature of 72°F. Seasonal extremes range from 105°F to -25°F, but these are only rare occurrences over the years. The housing market in both communities is strong, much of that a result of the energy market causing an economic boom and increased construction to meet expanding needs in that arena. Homes for sale come in all price ranges. Rentals are more in demand, with a 1-bedroom apartment starting at between \$750 and \$1,200/month. Forest Service housing may be available in both districts. Both Watford

City and Dickinson have excellent Park and Recreation Departments with programs available for kids and adults. Both cities have a variety of entertainment, shopping and business services. Both benefit from new state of the art, multi-million dollar and all-season indoor recreational facilities with full complements of exercise opportunities from swimming and weights to running, volleyball, racquetball, basketball, and tennis. World-class bird and big-game hunting are complemented by hiking, biking, and equestrian trails, one of which is located on the Little Missouri National Grasslands, the 145-mile Maah Daah Hey Trail.



**Downtown Watford City** 

Outdoor recreation opportunities are abundant and include hiking, biking, fishing, hunting, golfing, snowmobiling, off-roading, and water sports. The neighboring Theodore Roosevelt National Park (with its South Unit 30 minutes from Dickinson and the North Unit 15 minutes from Watford City) was listed as #5 of the New York Times lists of 52 Places to Go in 2016 across the World. Lake Sakakawea lies about an hour north of Dickinson or less than an hour north of Watford City and offers world-class fishing for walleye, pike, bass, trout, and salmon as well as water skiing and boating. Watford City and Dickinson host several different heritage and festival events throughout the year. Shopping opportunities are abundant with mall shopping available in nearby Williston for Watford City and malls located in Dickinson also. Both communities have grocery, hardware and numerous smaller specialty stores.











#### **Sheyenne Ranger District**

Positions located at the Sheyenne RD office in Lisbon, ND are excellent opportunities with challenging and rewarding experiences on one of the Forest Service's only tallgrass prairie units. The district team includes 6 permanent employees. While the district office is made up of a small staff, the various disciplines work together as a team to accomplish a variety of tasks. The district hosts a robust and expanding restoration program using a variety of tools such as prescribed fire and mechanical treatments. There is a growing recreation program with two primitive campgrounds and trails including 31 miles of the North Country National Scenic Trail and a water trail on the Sheyenne River.

The District also manages the Denbigh Experimental Forest located 13 miles west of Towner, ND on Highway 2. The USDA Forest Service established the Denbigh Experimental Forest in 1931 after the 1930s Dust Bowl hit McHenry County. Over the next 20+ years, more than 40 tree species were planted at Denbigh.

Lisbon, ND is the county seat for Ransom County, and is a full-service community with a population of 2,050. Services include county services, library, hospital, health clinic, wellness center, dentist, optometrist; three full-service banks and a credit union, grocery store, two pharmacies, hardware store and lumber yard; a variety of retail stores, restaurants; service stations, motels, daycare, a movie theater and several churches of various denominations.

The school system has an elementary and high school, which are considered excellent. The sports programs consist of 7th through 12th grade football, wrestling, boys and girls basketball, cross county, track and golf, and girls' volleyball. Lisbon has a very active Park Board which manages a wonderful park system with the community, including camping, swimming pool, tennis courts and playground. The Lisbon Bissel Golf Course is a beautiful golf course with black sand traps and grass greens. Outdoor recreation opportunities are varied and abundant and include archery, snowmobiling, hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, fishing, hunting, golfing, and water sports.





Currently government housing is not available. Homes are available in Lisbon and the surrounding area from \$60,000 to \$200,000. Rentals start at around \$400. The neighboring city of Fargo is within commuting distance (located a little over an hour to the northeast) and is the largest city in Region 1. Fargo offers a full complement of shopping, restaurants, sports venues, and activities.