Salmon-Cobalt Ranger District

Natural Resources Intern, GS-0499-03/04/05 with planned conversion to GS-0486-07/09

Duty Station: Salmon, Idaho (Government housing is available)

The Salmon-Challis National Forest will soon be filling one GS-0499-3/4/5 Natural Resources Intern in Salmon, Idaho.

This position will be filled through the Pathways Intern hiring authority. The announcement number, which will be open for applications on USAJOBS (USAJOBS - The Federal Government's official employment site) from February 18-28, 2022, is shown below:

Natural Resources Intern Announcement# 22-NPT-SRM-499-345-NR-INT

✓ Ensure SALMON, ID is selected for the duty station.

This is a field-going position. Incumbents are expected to hike in hot and cold weather in rugged terrain carrying heavy loads with either backpacks or backpack sprayers; treat weeds; inventory weeds, native plants and pollinating insects; operate 4-wheel drive vehicles and ATV/UTV’s, haul trailers, and work with pack and saddle stock. Fieldwork may include 1-day and multi-day trips to access field sites in remote areas, which may involve tent camping or overnight stays in Forest Service bunkhouses.

Duties at the full performance level (GS-7/9) include:

- As part of a team assignment, performs routine work in botany, invasive species, pollinator, and restoration resource-related projects.
- Provides biological input into the program; assists in development and implementation of management plans. Ensures compliance with implementation and efficacy monitoring; and prepares a variety of written reports or limited environmental analyses.
- Prepares portions of environmental assessments as an interdisciplinary team member.
- Develops biological evaluations for threatened, endangered, and sensitive plant and animal species for review by journey level biologists.
- Regularly works cooperatively with a variety of partners including private landowners, non-governmental organizations, local and State governments, and Federal agencies. This includes surveys of species occurrence, mapping invasive species and native plants, and helping to determine the need for habitat improvement or restoration.
- Participates in habitat inventory and monitoring programs and habitat improvement projects. Participates in monitoring program activities by making observations, gathering data, and reporting findings.
- Participates in studies and plans for proposed resource management activities, and coordinates or implements approved resource management plans such as habitat restoration or enhancement projects.
- Completes required accomplishment reporting, such as permit reports and monitoring reports.
- Leads hiring of seasonal staff and helps to guide day-to-day work in coordination with the program field crew lead.

**For More Information**
Interested applicants, or those desiring further information, should contact Diane Schuldt, Wildlife Biologist, at diane.schuldt@usda.gov or 208-421-8484.

**About the Forest**

**The Salmon-Challis National Forest** covers over 4.3 million acres in east-central Idaho. The Forest is bordered by the Bitterroot Range of the North Central Rockies on the east, and to the west includes over 1.3 million acres of the Frank Church–River of No Return Wilderness. Rugged and remote, this country offers adventure, solitude and breathtaking scenery. The Forest also contains Mt. Borah, Idaho's tallest peak and the Wild & Scenic Salmon River and the Middle Fork of the Salmon River. The area is a highly desired destination for hunting, fishing, white-water rafting and the many other popular recreational pursuits. The Forest features diverse, rough topography, geologic conditions, and miles of streams with anadromous fish spawning habitat creating a highly complex land management situation. The Supervisor’s Office is located in Salmon, Idaho. There are currently six administrative units on the Forest: Salmon-Cobalt, Challis-Yankee Fork, Lost River, Middle Fork, North Fork and Leadore Ranger Districts.
**About the Town:**

Salmon is the heart of the Salmon River Valley, surrounded by three mountain ranges, situated at the junction of Idaho State Highway 28 and U.S. Highway 93, and at the forks of the Lemhi and Salmon Rivers. The town has a population of about 3,100 and is the seat of Lemhi County which has a population of 8,000. The main industries are ranching, mining, timber and recreation. Salmon is known as the "White Water Capital of the World" serving as the hub of personal and outfitter, jet boat and rafting river activities. At 4,000 feet elevation, the surrounding terrain varies greatly from rolling, arid hills to steep, forested slopes.

**Climate:** Salmon enjoys a dry, warm climate during the summer and fall months with daily highs averaging between 75 to 95 degrees, and nightly lows from 45 to 60 degrees. The climate in winter is ideal for snow sports, the lowest temperatures averaging from 14 to 25 degrees with occasional sub-zero readings.

**Shopping and Services:** Salmon is a self-contained community with a full variety of shopping, business, medical, and professional services. In addition to basic services, there are a variety of specialty shops and art galleries. Salmon also has nursing and residential care facilities, hospice and a spectrum of social services. Also, most service clubs and associations are represented. The public library offers computer and other services.

**Medical:** The City of Salmon has a local 30-bed community hospital affiliated with the major hospital of Missoula, Montana, and provides Life-Flight helicopter, EMT, Search and Rescue units, physicians, dentists, optometrists, and also specialist affiliations with the Western Montana Medical Clinic.

**Schools:** A variety of pre-schools and day-care centers are available in addition to the elementary, junior and senior high schools. The schools offer numerous extra-curricular activities and sports, and strive for quality education with creative, athletic, and scholastic achievements. Adult education classes are also offered yearly.

**Transportation:** The Salmon Valley Airport provides charter services, is equipped with night-lights and can accommodate executive jets and other small aircraft. Major commercial airports are located within 160 miles.

**Housing:** There are four motels in Salmon and various bed and breakfast accommodations in the surrounding vicinity. A typical three-bedroom house costs $150,000 and up. Monthly rental for a typical three-bedroom home runs around $700. Several real estate offices are available. There are also mobile home parks and two in-city campgrounds.

**Churches:** Salmon has an active church community, school, and fourteen churches representing a large variety of denominations.

**Entertainment and Activities:** A wide assortment of entertainment is provided by various organizations throughout the year. The Salmon Arts Council provides events for the community presenting a wide range of performers in music, theater, and dance, visual art shows and sales, artist workshops, juried art exhibitions, and other programs for the local schools. The Sacajawea Center offers numerous historical programs and activities. Other celebrations include the Salmon Marathon, the Spokes and Chrome Car Show, Fourth of July Salmon River Days, Lil' Britches Rodeo and the Lemhi County Fair. Salmon also has numerous restaurants, a movie theater, and a fitness center. Recreation facilities include a nine-hole golf course, tennis courts, bowling alley, baseball diamonds and an outdoor community swimming pool.
Recreation for Salmon and Challis Areas: The Salmon River and the Middle Fork of the Salmon River, federally protected as Wild and Scenic Rivers, are renowned for white-water rafting, kayaking, floating and jet boating. Outfitter and guide services are offered and both Salmon and Challis serve as gateways to the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness, encompassing 2.4 million acres, the largest wilderness in the United States outside of Alaska. The primitive mountain area provides spectacular and abundant hunting (white-tailed and mule deer, elk, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, bear, moose, and cougar). Many species of game birds and waterfowl can also be found. Fishing (trout and steelhead) is open virtually all year. Miles of groomed trails and routes are prepared for cross-country skiing and snowmobiling while down-hill skiing, ice fishing and other winter fun can be enjoyed nearby. Salmon is 40 miles south of the Lost Trail Ski Area and within 140 miles of the world-famed Sun Valley Ski Resort. Salmon offers hiking and wilderness walks, camping and picnicking, rock hounding, prospecking, bird watching, photography, hot springs, back-country air tours, guest ranches, mining ghost towns and museums, all adding to the immense opportunity for pleasure and adventure to be had by avid sportsmen and casual outdoor enthusiasts alike. For more information on the area visit SalmonIdaho.com.