

Sierra National Forest

RECRUITMENT NOTICE

Natural Resources Specialist (Recreation)

GS-0401-07/09

Permanent 26/0

***** Please respond by September 28, 2009 *****

The Sierra National Forest is recruiting for GS-0401-07/09 Natural Resources Specialist (Recreation) position under the provisions of the USDA Career Intern Program (CIP). This position will be stationed in Prather, CA and filled on a two year full-time basis with the potential of becoming a permanent position. This is a professional recreation position as a special uses permit administrator administering a variety of special uses including recreation residences, resorts, organization camps, outfitter guides, and temporary recreation event and lands uses. This is one of the largest and most complex special uses and lands programs in the Region. The position is an integral part of a vibrant and dynamic special uses team on the High Sierra Ranger District of the Sierra National Forest. This notification is being circulated to inform prospective applicants of this employment opportunity. There may be up to two (2) positions filled.

For more information on the USDA Career Intern Program please go to:
<http://www.usda.gov/da/employ/CareerInternHowToApplyIntro.htm>.

ABOUT THE POSITION

The position is located on the High Sierra Ranger District of the Sierra National Forest in Prather, California. The incumbent(s) serves as a special uses permit administrator for the High Sierra Ranger District.

The intern will work under a formal training plan and receive training and development to perform as a Natural Resources Specialist. As a trainee, the short term goals are to increase the basic knowledge, skills, and abilities of a management specialist through appropriate work assignments, advanced classroom training, and mentorship by agency professionals. These training opportunities will provide a more thorough understanding of and exposure to laws and regulations, administrative policies, and various methods employed in design, evaluation, and analytical/scientific functions.

Required qualifications:

Basic Requirements:

- A. Successful completion of a full four-year course of study in an accredited college or university leading to a bachelor's or higher degree with at least 24 semester/36 quarter hours in biological sciences, agriculture, natural resource management, chemistry, or related disciplines appropriate to the position being filled.

For further information on the qualification requirements go to:
<http://www.opm.gov/qualifications/Standards/IORs/g0400/0401.htm>

Duties of the position include:

- Serves as principal contact for recreation residences, resorts, organization camps, recreation event organizers, and outfitter and guide permittees. Initiates actions for permittee requests for projects. Serves as procedural and technical specialist providing support in the area of special use permits. Initiates actions for permit renewals. Monitors and reviews applications and proposed amendments for compliance with the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), existing laws, regulations, procedures, and fee computation.
- Completes health and safety inspections and compliance checks on existing permits under special use authorization. Completes follow up on any items found not to be in compliance with the authorization.
- Prepares correspondence to permittees. Receives incoming calls from permittees and staff needing clarification regarding permits, billings, and correspondence.
- Reviews special use packages to ensure adherence to Forest Service standards. Independently deals with permittees to obtain necessary information and corrections. On own initiative, resolves issues and develops innovative solutions to ensure resource protection and public safety and satisfaction.
- Conducts NEPA analyses for recreation special use activities. Serve as lead team leader and writer/editor for special use permit projects. Prepares and implements public and internal scoping. Conducts Interdisciplinary Team Meetings and coordinates with District Resource Specialists for review and recommendation. Maintains specialist's reports. Coordinate the analysis of environmental documents including environmental assessments and categorically excluded actions, and draft decision memos for CE decisions. Prepares decision documents for responsible official signature.
- Provides information to the public regarding USDA Forest Service management practices, rules, and regulations relating to recreation and lands special uses.

Desired knowledge, skill base and experience of the incumbent include:

- Written and verbal communication skills.
- Ability to build and maintain productive working relationships with permittees, cooperators, external partners, and agency employees from a variety of resource areas.
- Ability to work with staff from other resource areas to accomplish project objectives while protecting forest resources.
- Ability to effectively and efficiently implement forest land management plans.
- Ability to work in a group setting as well as working alone, including field work.
- Knowledge of health and safety standards for field work and travel.
- Work requires some special physical demands, which may include some walking, hiking, standing, bending, or carrying of light items.

HOUSING

There is no government housing available for this position.

SALARY

The GS-0401-09 **target** position is guaranteed 26 pay periods of full-time employment each year with a salary range from \$21.58/hour to \$28.06/hour.

COMMUNITY AND SURROUNDING AREA

The Sierra National Forest lies in Central California, on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada mountain range. This 1.3 million acre National Forest is bounded on the south by the Sequoia Kings National Park and on the north by the Yosemite National Park. The region offers endless opportunities for the outdoors enthusiast. Camping, fishing, swimming, sailing, boating, water skiing, whitewater rafting and kayaking, off highway vehicle travel, downhill and cross-country skiing, hiking, backpacking, hunting, and horseback riding are among the many activities which can be enjoyed on the Sierra.

The District Office is located in the town of Prather. Auberry, (which is located 2 miles north east of Prather) and Prather are rural communities located at about the 1700 foot elevation. These communities are a 30 minute drive to either Fresno/Clovis or recreational opportunities located on the forest. Housing in the area is reasonable and many of the employees live in the area. The area receives very little snow during the winter months and is out of the fog most of the winter. Five wilderness areas enhance the District: John Muir, Kaiser, Dinkey Lakes, Monarch, and the Ansel Adams. In addition, there are six major lakes, and the Kings River. Recreation opportunities such as hiking, fishing, kayaking, hunting, alpine skiing, Nordic skiing, sailing, water skiing, white water rafting, snowmobiling, mountain biking & tour cycling, 4 wheel drive routes, golfing, horseback riding, rock climbing and many more activities can be experienced in the surrounding areas. For additional information, please visit:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/sierra/>

<http://www.roadsidethoughts.com/ca/prather-census.htm>

<http://www.ci.clovis.ca.us/Pages/default.aspx>

<http://www.fresno.gov/default.htm>

HOW TO BE CONSIDERED: Applicants must submit the following documentation in support of their application: resume, complete unofficial transcript of all college work, Career Intern Application. The CIP application is available at <http://www.usda.gov/da/employ/CareerInternApplication.htm>. Send completed application package to Nancy Woolsey at nwoolsey@fs.fed.us.

This outreach notice will end on September 28, 2009. Those wishing to be considered for this position should submit their information through the process indicated above by the closing date of the Outreach Notice.

For any technical questions regarding the above position(s), please contact Nancy Woolsey, Special Uses/Lands Officer at (559) 855.5355 extension 3330 or at nwoolsey@fs.fed.us.