

Job Title:Rangeland Management Specialist

Department:Department Of Agriculture

Job Announcement Number:13-1104150055-02054G (DB)B

SALARY RANGE: \$31,315.00 to \$50,431.00 / Year

OPEN PERIOD: Monday, February 4, 2013 to Monday, March 4, 2013

SERIES & GRADE: GS-0454-5/7

POSITION Full-Time - Permanent

INFORMATION:

PROMOTION POTENTIAL:

9

DUTY 1 vacancie(s) - Challis, ID
1 vacancie(s) - Soda Springs, ID

LOCATIONS:

WHO MAY BE CONSIDERED: Current permanent federal employees with competitive status, reinstatement eligibles, persons with disabilities, VEOA/VRA eligibles, certain military spouses, 30% or more disabled veterans, former Peace Corps or VISTA volunteers, CTAP and ICTAP eligibles, and Farm Service Agency permanent employees of county committees.

JOB SUMMARY:

A career with the Forest Service will challenge you to manage and care for more than 193 million acres of our nation's most magnificent lands, conduct research through a network of forest and range experiment stations and the Forest Products Laboratory, and provide assistance to State and private forestry agencies.

It's an awesome responsibility - but the rewards are as limitless as the views.

This position serves as a fully operating rangeland management specialist assisting in or independently administering an ecosystem based rangeland management program and related resource coordination.

*Your application or resume must clearly show that you possess the appropriate experience requirements. Application or resume should contain sufficient information to validate qualification and specialized experience claimed in the questionnaire.

*This position has a positive education requirement, therefore, a legible copy of your college transcripts is required. Transcripts must be attached to you application or faxed to 866-338-1328 prior to the closing date of the announcement; please include your name and the announcement number on all documents. Applicants who fail to submit their transcripts with their application will not be given credit for their education.

Two positions will be filled. Both are located in the Intermountain Region/R4. One is located on the Caribou-Targhee NF, Soda Springs Ranger District and one is located on the Salmon-Challis National Forest, Challis Ranger District.

For the position located on the Caribou-Targhee, you may contact Kevin Parker, Supervisory Rangeland Management Specialist at kparker@fs.fed.us or (208) 547-1108.

For the position located on the Salmon-Challis, you may contact Barry Dopp, Supervisory Rangeland Management Specialist at bdopp@fs.fed.us or (208) 879-4161.

*The incumbent will serve in a developmental capacity at the GS-5 & GS-7 levels and will be non-competitively promoted to the full performance level (GS-9) after meeting time-in-grade and specialized experience requirements.

*Please read the vacancy announcement thoroughly and follow all instructions to ensure proper consideration. If you are unable to apply on-line or have questions about the meaning of items in the vacancy announcement, please contact Human Resources Management at 1-877-372-7248.

*This position is being concurrently announced under USDA Demonstration Project procedures (open to US Citizens) under announcement number 13-1104150055-02054-DP(DB) which will open on approximately February 12, 2013. Current or former Federal employees and candidates eligible for special hiring authorities may apply to both announcements, but should be sure to apply to this Merit Promotion Announcement in order to avoid losing consideration since different referral criteria apply to each type of announcement.

KEY REQUIREMENTS

- Must Be a U.S. Citizen to apply.
 - Males born after 12/31/59 must be registered with the Selective Service.
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DUTIES:

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Duties listed are at the full performance level.

The duties will be performed in as a developmental trainee towards the full performance level (GS-9)

- * Monitoring, gathering, analyzing, interpreting and evaluating data to determine land management, economic & social goals & objectives identified for land involved are being achieved.
 - * Plan and carry out systematic ecosystem based rangeland surveys and inventories to identify and assess rangeland characteristics, amounts, types, values, and susceptibility of various land areas to specific land uses.
 - * Participates in the development, implementation, and evaluation of rangeland projects.
 - * Gathers and assembles data concerning rangeland health, trends, and ecological status of vegetation communities, site potential and desired plant community.
 - * Makes recommendations for improved rangeland and livestock administration and provides input into the development of subsequent rangeland and livestock management decisions.
 - * Prepares assigned portions of environmental assessments as a member of an interdisciplinary team.
 - * Makes recommendations for improved rangeland and livestock administration and provides input into the development of subsequent rangeland and livestock management decisions.
 - * Works closely with permittees and other livestock owners to prevent further unauthorized use.
 - * Prepares livestock management plans.
 - * Prepares or initiates action on cooperative agreements for rangeland improvements.
 - * Prepares rangeland improvement maintenance schedules and keeps records of existing and proposed improvements, maintenance needs, and accomplishments.
 - * Determines rangeland readiness for various rangeland uses,
 - * Inspects rangeland uses for compliance and monitors the results of the rangeland uses that are permitted or allowed.
 - * Determines compliance and makes recommendations to correct discrepancies.
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QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:

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You must possess the Basic Requirements identified below to be considered eligible for all positions at the GS-5 grade level and above.

Bachelor's Degree: range management; or a related discipline that included at least 42 semester hours in a combination of the plant, animal, and soil sciences, and natural resources management, as follows:

Range Management -- At least 18 semester hours of course work in range management, including courses in such areas as basic principles of range management, range plants, range ecology, range inventories and studies, range improvements, and ranch or rangeland planning.

Directly Related Plant, Animal, and Soil Sciences -- At least 15 semester hours of directly related courses in the plant, animal, and soil sciences, including at least one course in each of these three scientific areas, i.e., plant, animal, and soil sciences. Courses in such areas as plant taxonomy, plant physiology, plant ecology, animal nutrition, livestock production, and soil morphology or soil classification are acceptable.

Related Resource Management Studies -- At least 9 semester hours of course work in related resource management subjects, including courses in such areas as wildlife management, watershed management, natural resource or agricultural economics, forestry, agronomy, forages, and outdoor recreation management.

OR

Combination of education and experience -- at least 42 semester hours of course work in the combination of plant, animal, and soil sciences and natural resources management shown above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

In addition to the basic requirements, the following additional education and/or experience are qualifying. Transcripts must be provided for qualifications based on education. Your application or resume must clearly show that you possess the specialized experience requirements. Specialized experience is defined as experience that is typically in or related to the work of the position to be filled and has equipped you with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities to successfully perform the duties of the position.

GS-5 - Applicants who meet the basic requirements described above are fully qualified for the GS-5 level.

GS-7 - One year of specialized experience equivalent to at least the GS-5 grade level; one full year of graduate level education; an appropriate combination of graduate level education and specialized experience; or Superior Academic Achievement (go to this site determine if you are eligible: <http://www.opm.gov/qualifications/policy/ApplicationOfStds-04.asp>). The education must have been

obtained in an accredited college or university and demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to do the work.

Examples of specialized experience are: Assisting higher level professionals with grazing applications and permits, on-the-ground use supervision, planning and conducting range studies, planning range & watershed improvements, conducting trespass investigations, consulting with livestock operators and preparing land use planning documents.

TIME-IN-GRADE REQUIREMENT: If you are a current federal employee in the General Schedule (GS) pay plan and applying for a promotion opportunity, you must meet time-in-grade (TIG) requirements with 52 weeks of service at the next lower grade level in the normal line of progression for the position being filled.

This requirement must be met within 30 days of the closing date of this announcement.

May be subject to satisfactory completion of one year probationary or trial period.

Must be a high school graduate or equivalent

HOW YOU WILL BE EVALUATED:

You will be evaluated based on your qualifications for this position as evidenced by the education, experience, and training you described in your resume, as well as the responses to the Occupational Questionnaire to determine the degree to which you possess the knowledge, skills, and abilities listed below:

* Ability to communicate effectively other than in writing

*Ability to conduct range management studies

* Ability to provide scientific and technical analysis of rangeland management issues and problems

* Ability to perform rangeland program management and oversight functions

* Clicking the link below will present a preview of the application form; i.e. the online questionnaire.

The application form link below will only provide a preview and does not initiate the application process. To initiate the online application process, click the "Apply Online" button to the right.

To view the application form, visit:

<http://fs.usda.ntis.gov/cp/?event=jobs.previewApplication&jobid=50a6a5e6-99d3-48cd-968b-a149012e19e9>

To view the application form, visit:

<http://fs.usda.ntis.gov/cp/?event=jobs.previewApplication&jobid=7bee2854-bd39-4208-b62b-a15700ec6cd1>

BENEFITS:

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The Federal Government offers a comprehensive benefits package. Explore the major benefits offered to most Federal employees at: <http://www.usajobs.gov/ResourceCenter/Index/Interactive/Benefits#icc> .

OTHER INFORMATION:

Relocation expenses are authorized.

The Position on the Salmon-Challis National Forest is a Bargaining Unit.

The Position on the Caribou-Targhee is a **non**-bargaining unit.

There is no government housing.

Career Transition Assistance Plan(CTAP) or Interagency Career Transition Assistance Plan (ICTAP): If you are claiming CTAP/ICTAP eligibility, provide proof of eligibility. CTAP/ICTAP eligibles must meet the agency's definition for a quality candidate to be considered. Information about CTAP/ICTAP eligibility is on OPM's Career Transition Resources website at <http://www.opm.gov/ctap/index.asp> .

- **BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION AND FINGERPRINT CHECK:** Selection and retention in this position is contingent on a successfully adjudicated FBI National Criminal History Check (fingerprint check) and a background investigation.

If you are selected for a position with further promotion potential, you will be placed under a career development plan, and may be non-competitively promoted if you successfully complete the requirements and if recommended by management. However, promotion is neither implied nor guaranteed.

HOW TO APPLY:

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Please read the entire announcement and all the instructions before you begin.

You must complete the application process and submit all required documents electronically by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) on the closing date of this announcement. Assistance is available during business hours (normally 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Monday - Friday). Applying online is highly encouraged. If applying online poses a hardship, please contact our office well before the closing date for an alternate method. All hardship application packages with supporting documents must be received no later than noon on the closing date of the announcement in order to be entered into the system prior to its closing. This agency provides reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities on a case-by-case basis. Please contact us if you require this for any part of the application and hiring process.

Step1 – Create a USAJOBS account (if you do not already have one) at www.usajobs.gov. It is recommended that as part of your profile you set up automatic email notification to be informed when the status of your application changes. If you choose not to set up this automatic notification, then you will have to log into your USAJOBS account to check on the status of your application.

Step 2 - Create a Resume with USAJOBS or upload a Resume into your USAJOBS account. You may want to customize your resume to ensure it documents duties and accomplishments you have gained that are directly related to this position in order to verify that qualifications are met. In addition, your resume must support your responses to the online questionnaire (you may preview the online questionnaire by clicking on the link at the end of the How You Will Be Evaluated section of the job announcement).

Step 3 - Click "Apply Online" and follow the prompts to complete the Occupational Questionnaire and attach any additional documents that may be required.

You can update your application or documents anytime while the announcement is open. Simply log into your USAJOBS account and click on "Application Status." Click on the position title, and then select "Update Application" to continue.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

The following documents must be submitted to constitute a complete application package. It is your responsibility to ensure that all required documents are received within the required timeframes. Our office cannot be responsible for incompatible software, illegible fax transmissions, delays in the mail service etc. Failure to submit required, legible documents will result in elimination from consideration.

1. Resume that includes the following information: 1) job information for which you are applying; 2) personal information; 3) education; 4) work experience; and, 5) other qualifications.

2. College Transcripts if education is required for meeting basic qualifications and/or you are substituting education for specialized experience. An unofficial copy is sufficient with the application, however, if selected, an official college transcript will be required.

3. DD-214 (Member 4 Copy) and/or SF-15 Application for 10-point Veteran Preference if claiming Veterans' Preference or eligibility for appointment under the VRA, VEOA, or 30% Disabled Veterans hiring authority.

4. SF-50 Notification of Personnel Action if you are a current or former Federal employee that will verify your federal status, position title, series and grade. FSA County employees must provide the most recent Notification of Personnel Action (Form SF-50-B or FSA-50) that verifies permanent status. Also provide the SF-50 that reflects the highest grade level held on a permanent basis or the full performance level of your current position, whichever is higher.

5. Annual Performance Appraisal if you are a current Federal employee. Submit the most recently completed annual performance appraisal (dated within 18 months) which identifies the employee's official rating of record, signed by the supervisor, or a statement advising why the performance appraisal is unavailable. Do not submit a performance plan.

6. Certification of Disability if you are eligible for appointment based on a disability under the Schedule A hiring authority. This certification can be documented by a counselor from a State Vocational Rehabilitation Agency or the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Service of the Department of Veterans Affairs; by a statement or letter on a physician/medical professionals' letterhead stationary; or by statements, records, or letters from a Federal Government agency that issues or provides disability benefits. The certification must verify the applicant has a severe disability, is eligible under a Schedule A appointment authority, and he or she is able to perform the essential duties of the position. The certification must also describe any needed reasonable accommodation. You can review additional information at: <https://www.opm.gov/disability/appempl.asp>.

7. If you are eligible for appointment based on service in the Peace Corps, Vista, Action Cooperative, or another special authority, submit proof of eligibility.

8. CTAP/ICTAP documentation if separated from Federal service or pending separation based on a reduction in force (RIF) or other management workforce reduction action. Proof of eligibility must include a separation notice or Certificate of Expected Separation, SF-50 that documents the RIF separation action or most recent SF-50 (that is not an award), and latest performance appraisal (dated within the last 18 months) or a statement advising why one is unavailable.

NOTE: If a document is resubmitted, it replaces the previous submission, which means the previous document is no longer available to the Human Resources Office. If you are adding to, rather than replacing a previous submission, you must upload both the old document and the new document.

AGENCY CONTACT INFO:

HRM Contact Center

Phone: 877-372-7248, Option 2

Fax: 866-338-2534

Email: fsjobs@fs.fed.us

Agency Information:

USDA Forest Service

Do not mail in applications, see instructions under the How to Apply tab

Albuquerque, NM

87109

United States

Fax: 866-338-2534

WHAT TO EXPECT NEXT:

If you set up your USAJOBS account to send automatic email notifications, you will receive an acknowledgement email that the submission of your online Occupational Questionnaire and resume was successful, if you were referred to the selecting official for consideration, and if you were selected or not selected. If you choose not to set up automatic email notifications, you must check your USAJOBS account for the latest status of your application. Your application may be reviewed to verify that you meet the qualifications and eligibility requirements for the position prior to issuing lists to a selecting official. If further evaluation or interviews are required, you will be contacted. Normally, a final job offer to the selected candidate is made within 30-60 days after the issuance of the certificate