

OUTREACH NOTICE

Range Technician, GS-0455, Grade Level 3, 4, or 5

Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest

Black Mesa and Lakeside Ranger Districts Zone Range Program

Overgaard, Arizona

This is a temporary seasonal position and will not exceed 1040 hours per year. The position performs a variety of work in support of the Range Program

The Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest may soon be filling two Range Technician (**GS-0455, Grade Levels 3, 4, or 5**) positions on the Black Mesa and Lakeside Ranger Districts. The incumbent will have a duty station of the Black Mesa Ranger District in Overgaard, AZ. These positions will have the responsibility for helping to manage the zoned range program, consisting of 26 grazing allotments. The incumbent will assist with:

- Grazing permit compliance inspections
- Building and maintaining fence and other rangeland improvements, including removal of old fences
- Riparian Monitoring
- Locating long term trend transect locations
- Range vegetation utilization and long term monitoring
- Conducting noxious weed control
- Conducting noxious weed inventories and mapping
- Maintain spray equipment
- Handle general use herbicides
- Being involved with vegetation treatments, including layout and inspections

For more information on the position, contact **the Zone Rangeland Management Specialist Andy Habgood at (928) 535-7350 or andrewhabgood@fs.fed.us**

HOW TO APPLY:

If you are interested in applying for this position, please submit your application through <http://www.usajobs.gov>. Use the search function to find vacancy announcement number: **16-TEMP-R3-0455-3RA-DT** for Grade Level 3; **16-TEMP-R3-0455-4RT-DT** for Grade Level 4; or **16-TEMP-R3-0455-5RATEC-DT** for Grade Level 5. Select **OVERGAARD, ARIZONA** as your location. You can access this announcement on the date the job opens which is indicated below with the number listed above as the announcement # in USAjobs.

Instructions for applying can also be found by clicking on the 'Centralized Temporary Hiring' tab at the following website <http://www.fs.usda.gov/r3>.

The positions will be open to apply to starting January 20, 2016 and the DEADLINE for applying is January 26, 2016.

The Forest

The Apache and the Sitgreaves National Forests were administratively combined in 1974 and are now managed as one unit from the Forest Supervisor's Office. The forest is 2,110,000 acres in size and is located in east-central Arizona along the Mogollon Rim and the White Mountains. The forest covers portions of Coconino, Navajo, Apache, and Greenlee counties; borders the Coconino, Tonto, and Gila National Forests; and borders the White Mountain Apache and San Carlos Indian Reservations.

The Apache-Sitgreaves has 34 lakes and reservoirs and more than 680 miles of rivers and streams - more than can be found in any other Southwestern National Forest. The White Mountains contain the headwaters of several Arizona Rivers including the Black, the Little Colorado, and the San Francisco. The forest ranges in elevation from 3500 feet near Clifton to nearly 11,500 feet on Mount Baldy. The congressionally proclaimed Mount Baldy, Escudilla, and Bear Wallow wilderness areas and the Blue Range Primitive Area make the forest one of America's premier backcountry Forests.

The Districts

The Black Mesa Ranger District encompasses approximately 616,000 acres of mixed conifer, ponderosa pine and piñon-juniper forests, and has within its boundaries five high-elevation lakes, numerous scenic canyons, 8 campgrounds offering over 400 campsites, mountain biking, hiking, fishing, hunting, OHV trails, non-motorized areas, three small communities and many developed inholdings. The District hosts many visitors year-round from the Phoenix metropolitan area, which is within 2 and 1/2 hours travel time.

Located on the Mogollon Rim, the district has a high incidence of lightning strikes during the summer, resulting in an active fire season from May through July. Threatened, endangered, and sensitive species include: Mexican spotted owl, northern goshawk, bald eagle, peregrine falcon, Little Colorado spinedace, and Bebb's willow. Wild game species include Rocky Mountain elk, mule deer, javelina, mountain lion, black bear, wild turkey and antelope. The district has 12 grazing allotments and offers approximately 9 million board feet of saw-timber, pulpwood, and forest products each year through the use of stewardship, timber and small products contracts. There are many lands and special uses issues related to the development of private land in the wildland interface.

The Lakeside Ranger District is located approximately in the center of the Sitgreaves and Apache National Forests. The District is comprised of 267,120 acres of land in National Forest status, which surround 44,900 acres of intermingled private land. The communities of Show Low and Pinetop-Lakeside comprise the majority of the private land. The southern boundary of the district is along the Mogollon Rim, which is the dividing line between the Colorado River and Gila-Salt River watersheds. It is also the north boundary of the Apache Indian Reservation. The vegetative type along the Mogollon Rim is predominately ponderosa pine. The Rim slopes gently to the north then very quickly drops into the pinyon-juniper belt and even into the western wheat grass flats. Elevation ranges from 8,500 feet in the southeastern corner around Lake Mountain to approximately 6,000 feet in the juniper flats along the north boundary. Heavy recreation sites include both developed and undeveloped acres. The District has 14 active grazing allotments. Water is a major attraction with several lakes, reservoirs, rivers, and streams within a short driving distance.

The Community

UNIT: Black Mesa Ranger District office is located on State Highway 260 in the community of Overgaard, Arizona.

TOWN: Our address is 2748 Highway 260, Overgaard, AZ. Our political affiliation is to the communities of Heber and Overgaard.

ELEVATION: District elevations range from 6000 - 8000 ft. with average of about 6900 ft.

POPULATION: Small rural year-round populations within each town, less than 3,000. The population swells considerably from May – October due to second home owners. The closest larger towns are Show Low, Pinetop-Lakeside, Snowflake-Taylor, and Payson.

GENERAL LOCATION: The District office is located in east-central Arizona, in Navajo County, about 2 1/2 hours from Phoenix, and 2 ¼ hours from Flagstaff.

TRANSPORTATION: Air - Local private airport, located 1 mile east of the office, and commercial airport at Show Low, located 35 miles east of the office. Shuttle buses from Heber-Overgaard provide transportation to airports in Show Low and Phoenix. Sky Harbor Airport in Phoenix is approximately 2 ½ hours away by car.

ECONOMIC BACKGROUND: Navajo County has been experiencing substantial growth through active business and housing development. Public lands contribute substantially to local economies of tourism, agriculture, ranching, and recreation.

SCHOOLS: Heber/Overgaard, as well as the communities of Show Low, Pinetop-Lakeside, and Snowflake/Taylor offer kindergarten - high school grades with varying curriculums, structure, and sports activities. Northland Pioneer College is located in Show Low with a satellite campus in all of the above-mentioned communities.

HOSPITALS: A medical center is located in the community of Overgaard, with air ambulance capability. A pharmacy is also located in Overgaard. Show Low and Payson have full service hospitals, as well as several other supporting medical, dental, and optometry businesses.

DOCTORS: A community medical center, affiliated with Summit Health Care in Show Low, one Optometrist, one Chiropractor and one part time Dentist provide medical services to the community. A full range of services are available in the Show Low/Pinetop-Lakeside area.

CHURCHES: Various denominations, including Catholic, Methodist, Baptist, Lutheran, and LDS.

LIBRARY: A new public library, with an inter-library loan program, is located in Heber.

SHOPPING: Two small grocery stores, hardware stores, dollar stores, and a variety of other small shops are located in Heber-Overgaard. A full array of shopping opportunities is located in the Show Low/Pinetop-Lakeside area.

FIRE/POLICE: Navajo County Sheriff Department services our area. The Arizona Department of Public Safety maintains a field office here. The Heber-Overgaard Fire Department provides fire protection and ambulance services.

RECREATION: Fishing, hunting, hiking, camping, picnicking, horseback riding, wood gathering, snowmobiling and cross-country skiing are all available within the District boundary. The District is evaluating both motorized and non-motorized trail systems adjacent to the community. A full array of recreation facilities exists in the Show Low/Pinetop-Lakeside area. Numerous public lands opportunities within an easy 1-2 hours.

Housing

Government housing may be available. Please inquire for more details.