

**Master Record Number: FS5918**

**Title/Pay Plan/Series/Grade: Range Technician, GS-0455-05**

**FLSA Code: Non-Exempt**

**Telework Eligible: Yes**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This position is located on a Forest Service Wild Horse Territory as part of the Wild Horse and Burro (WH&B) Program, which affirms wild, free roaming horses remain a living legacy of American heritage, recognized and maintained as part of a unique biological, social, and cultural heritage and natural ecosystem. The incumbent performs technical range work to help ensure animal well-being and welfare needs are met.

### **MAJOR DUTIES**

Assists with planning rangeland management support projects, including wild horse herd management plan updates. Checks range allotments and wild horse territory to assess appropriate utilization, range conditions and wild horse presence on Forest Service lands.

Checks range allotments and wild horse territory to assess number of wild horses. Gathers photos for identification and record keeping and annotates dates and location of wild horses inside the range allotment and wild horse territory. Identifies and reports injuries, poor body conditions or obvious disease symptoms among horses to supervisor. Validates information regarding age, sex, health and overall horse conditions.

Performs a variety of computations and assessments of standard rangeland management data for interpretative use and inclusion in reports. Prepares charts, graphs, and/or reports using well-established specified procedures. Notes and reports on conditions such as range utilization, grazing impact, or winter range forage availability, to determine ability to support wild horses.

Monitors and sets bait trap systems to capture wild horses. Herds animals through trap system, including chutes, where animals are loaded for removal. Transports wild horses to off-range handling facilities and adopters. Performs a variety of tasks related to moving, capturing and handling wild horses. Rides saddle horses, walks, or drives motor vehicles to safely move wild horses.

Makes a number of measurements using a variety of instruments. Performs computations that require judgment and knowledge of the nature of the sources and use of the data such as estimating production and forage utilization potential, based on various sampling techniques, to closely estimate percentage of use by each class of animal.

Evaluates proposed equipment and trailers used by horse haulers or adopters for the transportation of wild horses to ensure the safety and humane transport of the animal per Forest Service guidelines.

Assists with compliance issues such as inhumane treatment, compliance checks on adopters, injured animal reporting, and disposition of horses outside territory. Assists supervisor, range staff and law enforcement with humane end of life when determined by authorized officials that the situation is a justified act of mercy.

**NOTES:**

Must have skill and ability to ride horseback, rope horses, and maneuver and restrain domesticated and/or wild horses and burros.

A valid state driver's license is required.