



OUTREACH NOTICE

Range Management Specialist, GS-0454-05/07
Hydrologist, GS-1315-05/07
with planned conversion to GS-09
Permanent Appointment

Black Hills National Forest
Bearlodge Ranger District, Sundance, WY

The Bearlodge Ranger District on the Black Hills National Forest located in Sundance, WY is conducting an outreach to assess interest in two permanent vacancies for a GS-0454-05/07 Range Management Specialist and a GS-1315-05/07 Hydrologist. Both positions have planned conversion/promotion potential to GS-09 level. Both positions are part of zone programs covering the Bearlodge and Northern Hills Ranger Districts.

These positions are being advertised through the upcoming Society of Range Management (SRM) hiring event on February 6-10, 2022. Please respond by **February 3rd, 2022**.

ABOUT THE BLACK HILLS NATIONAL FOREST

The Black Hills National Forest employs 275 full-time permanent employees on four ranger districts and at the Forest Supervisor's Office. Offices are located in Sundance and Newcastle, Wyoming and Custer, Rapid City and Spearfish, South Dakota. The Black Hills National Forest is the largest forest in the Rocky Mountain Region in terms of budget, workforce, timber production, and fire and fuels management.

The Black Hills has 1.2 million acres of forested hills and mountains. It is 110 miles long and 70 miles wide, approximately 87 percent in South Dakota and 13 percent in Wyoming. The Black Hills rise from the adjacent grasslands into a ponderosa pine forest to 7,246 feet at Harney Peak Lookout in the Black Elk Wilderness. It is described as an "Island in the Plains" with the diversity of wildlife and plants reaching from the eastern forests to the western plains. The Forest boasts a good balance of multiple uses, such as timber production, grazing, hiking, camping, mountain biking, horseback riding, rock climbing, mining, and wildlife viewing. Big game hunting opportunities include deer, elk, mountain lion and antelope.

Four National Park System destinations lie within the Black Hills proper: Mount Rushmore National Memorial, Jewel Cave National Monument, Wind Cave National Park, and Devils Tower National Monument. Custer State Park, the nation's second largest state park, is within five minutes of Custer. Historic Deadwood/Lead offers an interesting look at the Wild West and features exciting

gaming opportunities. Several beautiful mountain lakes and blue-ribbon trout streams attract thousands of recreation users to the Black Hills each year.

ABOUT THE JOBS

1. Range Management Specialist

The position provides professional and technical expertise to a complex Rangeland Management program. The incumbent is responsible for:

- Conducting short and long term monitoring of plant communities and their trends; grazing impacts, precipitation, soil erosion hazards and riparian condition.
- Conducts studies of range conditions, trends and utilization
- Carrying out ecosystem based rangeland surveys and inventories.
- Gathering and assembling data concerning rangeland health, trends, ecological status of vegetation communities, site potential and desired plant community.
- Compiles material and supply estimates and/or oversees the construction and/or maintenance of rangeland projects.
- Makes recommendations for improved rangeland and livestock administration and provides input into the development of subsequent rangeland and livestock management decisions.
- Prepares livestock management plans, determines location and proper stocking, and locates, prescribes, designs, and schedules rangeland improvement projects such as fences, pipelines, cattleguards, plant community changes, or prescribed burning.
- Maintains continuing working relationship with permittees and others to ensure compliance with agreed upon plans and desired quality of work, and to advise rangeland users of various activities affecting their use of specific rangeland areas. Prepares and/or revises annual rangeland user instructions. Prepares or initiates action on cooperative agreements for rangeland improvements.
- Assists in the administration of grazing permits by consulting, coordinating and cooperating with permittees and other rangeland users. Determines permittee compliance with permits and makes recommendations to correct discrepancies.
- Determines rangeland readiness for various rangeland uses, inspects rangeland uses for compliance with permits, and monitors the results of the rangeland uses that are permitted or allowed. Prepares rangeland improvement maintenance schedules and keeps records of existing and proposed improvements, maintenance needs, and accomplishments.
- Conducts range allotment inspections, compiles actual use information, and prepares allotment management plans. Determines proper stocking and rotation schemes.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

The incumbent will spend approximately 60% of their time in the field, and may travel on foot, horseback, ATV, and 4x4 vehicle. A valid driver's license is required. It is desirable for applicants to have some of the following skills: the ability to navigate using a topographic map and GPS; experience around horses and riding; a strong background in the principles of rangeland management; comfort working alone or in small groups; plant identification skills with an emphasis on grass species; good writing and oral communication skills and the ability to utilize computers for writing, analysis, and data input.

2. Hydrologist

This position performs professional work in the field of hydrology and has responsibility to conduct and interpret hydrologic surveys and analysis, watershed rehabilitation and management planning, and providing technical guidance within the framework of multiple-use management of forest and range lands.

- Assists in the development of land management planning related to hydrological evaluation
- Prepares hydrological management prescriptions to protect and enhance water resource
- Serves on interdisciplinary teams as a project proponent and/or as an interdisciplinary team member to complete NFMA and NEPA efforts
- Conducts water resource inventories and assessments to assist in land management planning procedures
- Interprets watershed data for input to environmental reports
- Evaluates impacts of land management (timber, fuels, mining, and special use permits) in correlation with water resources
- Plans, coordinates, and leads the implementation of watershed restoration efforts
- Ability to navigate using a topographic map and GPS
- Provides support to other projects
- Serve as a field crew lead and be responsible for leading a field crew of 3-4 individuals in rough terrain with greatly varying weather conditions and temperatures
- Provide technical guidance for Best Management Practices (BMPs)
- A valid driver's license is required
- **Note:** This position may also be required to work on Forest wide or other Zone projects.

BEARLODGE RANGER DISTRICT AND SUNDANCE

The Bearlodge District totals about 200,000 acres in the northern part of the Black Hills within the State of Wyoming. Timber harvest and related vegetation management / fuels reduction activity is the largest resource program on the district, zone and forest. Average annual timber offer is about 10 million board feet. The district also has very active programs in lands and minerals, wildlife habitat improvement, recreation, cultural resources, and livestock grazing

The community of Sundance, which has a population of approximately 1,100, offers one library, two day care centers, ten churches, four motels, one RV park, one hospital, a nursing home, one dentist, four doctors, one pharmacy, one newspaper, one bank, cable television, post office, telephone service, police department, volunteer fire department, emergency medical technicians, city offices, as well as some local retail businesses. The nearest commercial airports are in Rapid City, SD (80 miles) and Gillette, WY (60 miles) both full-service communities.

Public recreation in Sundance includes one baseball field, one golf course, two tennis courts, one bike path, one swimming pool, and two parks. In the immediate vicinity is trout fishing, access to over 300 miles of snowmobile trails, hunting, hiking and camping. Forest service campgrounds near Sundance are Cook Lake, Reuter, and Sundance Trailhead. Devils Tower National Monument, featured in "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," is located 27 miles northwest of Sundance. There is a Wyoming State Park at Keyhole Reservoir 19 miles west on Interstate 90.

Major employers in Sundance are: Crook County School District, Crook County government, US Government agencies, Powder River Electric (REA), Crook County Nursing Home, Energy Electric and Wyoming Transportation Department. The economic base for the area is primarily ranching, logging, mining, and tourism.

Rental homes are scarce in Sundance; rent averages \$700 for a three-bedroom home. There are a limited number of homes for sale in the \$75,000 to \$150,000 range (median home price is \$132,300). There is some housing available in Upton, WY located 30 miles southwest of Sundance and more real estate available in Spearfish.

Sundance has a public school district with one elementary school, one junior high/high school, one alternative high school, and a Community Education Program. Black Hills State University in Spearfish offers both day and night classes, as does Gillette Community College.

The Sundance area is a thriving community with recreational opportunities unending. Property taxes in Wyoming are very reasonable; the property taxes in South Dakota are considerably higher. For more information on Sundance, Wyoming please visit the following websites.

[Sundance Times Homepage](#)

[Home \(cityofsundancewy.com\)](http://cityofsundancewy.com)

[Sundance Chamber of Commerce, Sundance, Wyoming, Devils Tower, Sturgis, Black Hills, Business Directory \(sundancewyoming.com\)](#)

CONTACT

Interested applicants should contact:

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For information about how to apply for a federal job, the salary, or job series, visit the [US Office of Personnel Management website](#).

Please respond by February 3rd, 2022

