

Biological Scientist, GS-0401-11

Position Number: 51670421

Introductory Statement: This position is located on a Forest Service unit. This position will work in a team to accomplish field work, data management and analysis, report writing and administration of current oil and gas developments on the Forest.

Forest Resource Advice and Assistance 20%

Provides assistance to overcome significant problems covering diverse and conflicting forestry situations and assignments. Provides advice and assistance to supervisor, associates in the Supervisors Office and District Ranger and their staffs regarding management issues for congressionally designated areas, such as wild and scenic rivers, wilderness, national recreation areas, scenic areas and national scenic trails. Evaluates the effect of a particular land use on other forest resources and extends, modifies or adapts conventional procedures to resolve issues. Provides assistance and guidance to others to resolve complex special use permit issuance and management questions that arise during permit preparation, renewing existing permits, managing permit implementation and annual billing of permit holder.

Advisory Services For Land Resource Management Programs 20%

Provides expertise and advice to operating-level units on the development and execution of forest resource use plans and projects that involve conflicting interests or diverse situations. Such as development and implementation of wilderness management plans, implementation of Wild and Scenic River Act Section 7 requirements for water resource projects and responds to management questions regarding Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines for Nationally Designated Areas and Trails. Assesses the effect and interrelationship of various economic and environmental variables and advises on the most effective methods for executing given assignments. Maintains liaison with employees of Federal and State governments, local officials, and private organizations or land owners who are affected by Congressionally designated area management requirements or standards. Provides technical advice and assistance on mutual forest resource problems. Uses judgment and ingenuity in adapting guidance contained in the Forest Plan or Congressionally designated area management plans to specific situations.

Land Use Plan Implementation 20%

Implements Congressionally designated area resource management plans that include conflicting and diverse program characteristics such as multi-use program goals and requirements or special problems that require sustained efforts for solution. Reviews, analyzes, interprets and recommends modifications of plans and/or programs in order to implement various provisions of federal legislation and standards.

Team Assignments 20%

As part of a team assignment, the incumbent provides expertise and assistance in natural resources management. Work includes the analysis of data with recommendations on natural resources problems. Assignments may include: assessment of impacts of projects or license applications on natural resources; coordinating natural resources; and/or, recommending practices and procedures affecting natural resources management. Ensures compliance with natural resources management plans; coordinates studies of natural resources activities; and/or, prepares a variety of written reports, plans, and/or environmental assessments. Is called upon to provide advice and assistance to federal, state, and/or local agencies in a local or multi-

state area.

Natural Resource Program Coordination 20%

Provides professional guidance, expertise, and support for the planning, design, development, implementation, and evaluation of program or project strategies for areas such as Nationally Designated Areas and Trails. Assists the Forest Trails Coordinator by acting as a Contracting Officer Representative for trail maintenance and reconstruction projects for snowmobile and ATV trails. Serves as the Forest coordinator for INFRA for recreation facilities. Provides advice and counsel to district/forest employees doing recreation facility surveys and in-putting data into the INFRA data base.

Conceives and proposes policy, standards, and guidelines and provides input to plans and strategies. Plans and conducts periodic functional inspections and programs reviews. Develops and maintains professional relationships and partnerships with other resource professionals involved with management issues for Congressionally designated areas within USDA Forest Service and in other Federal, State, local, and private organizations.

Assures coordination between specified program areas. Assures that all program management activities remain responsive to identified customer needs.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT FACTS:

Bargaining Unit Status: Eligible.

Performs other duties as assigned.

Performs wildfire suppression support as directed within training and physical capabilities.

Factor 1- 7 Knowledge Required by the Position

Knowledge of biological science sufficient to modify or adapt standard techniques, processes, and procedures, to assess and apply precedents to devise strategies and plans to overcome significant scientific problems. This includes intensive knowledge and competence in advanced techniques of a highly complex area of biology sufficient to serve as a troubleshooter, specialist, or coordinator.

Factor 2- 4 Supervisory Controls

The supervisor establishes overall objectives and resources. The supervisor and scientist jointly develop projects, priorities, and deadlines. The scientist independently plans and carries out assignments, interprets policy, coordinates work with stakeholders, resolves most of the conflicts that arise, and keeps the supervisor informed of far-reaching implications. Completed work is reviewed from an overall standpoint in terms of feasibility, and effectiveness in meeting requirements.

Factor 3- 3 Guidelines

The scientist evaluates, interprets, selects, and applies guidelines to specific cases and requirements; and adapts and modifies existing guides in applying established methods and practices to new situations or in relating new assignments to precedent ones.

Factor 4- 4 Complexity

The scientist plans and coordinates various projects and studies, and makes

recommendations/decisions regarding a range of multifaceted problems. Precedents must be applied to new work situations and guidelines adapted to reconcile conflicting demands.

Factor 5- 3 Scope and Effect

The purpose of the work is to apply established scientific techniques to investigate and analyze various conventional problems and questions or to investigate and analyze discrete aspects of more complex problems. Work products contribute materially to the effectiveness of completed projects.

Factor 6- 3 Personal Contacts

Personal contacts include a wide range of professional and administrative personnel throughout the agency, at other federal agencies, in state and local government, private industry, academia, advocacy groups, and in some cases the media and elected officials.

Factor 7- 2 Purpose of Contacts

The purpose of contacts is to plan, coordinate, or advise on work efforts or resolve operating problems in dealings with others who are working toward mutual goals.

Factor 8- 1 Physical Demands

The work requires no special physical demands. It may involve some walking, standing, bending, or carrying of light items.

Factor 9- 1 Work Environment

The work is performed in an office or similar setting involving everyday risks or discomforts that require normal safety precautions.