



OUTREACH NOTICE

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN/FACILITIES AND ROADS WHITE MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST (NEW HAMPSHIRE AND MAINE) GS 0802-10 (2 TO BE HIRED)

The White Mountain National Forest is seeking highly motivated and qualified applicants to fill two separate Engineering Technician vacancies on the Forest. Advertising for the first position will begin within the next 30 days with an anticipated start date of 1 August 2009 . Advertising for the second will begin on or about the first of May with an anticipated start date of 1 October 2009. Interested applicants should respond to this outreach by emailing their interest to Bill Dauer, Forest Engineer/Technical Services Team Leader at wdauer@fs.fed.us. Please indicate in your response which of the two positions you are interested in or both if that is the case. Questions or additional information on the position and the Forest can also be directed to Bill Dauer by phone at (603) 528-8723.

Outreach Notice responders will be advised by email when the position is advertised at www.usajobs.com. Applications are received (online only) at <https://www.avuedigitalservices.com/usfs/applicant.html>. Questions about applying within Avue should be directed to Robert McCrory at rmccrory@fs.fed.us. Applicants are referred to the selecting official for consideration whenever 1) their answers to the job experience questions within Avue are at the GS-0802-9 level or higher (or equivalent private industry experience); 2) they have selected one or both of the locations as a “preferred location” within their Avue application; and 3) their Avue application was created or updated within the past 120 days or less.

Position Descriptions and Duties: The two positions to be filled are those of Engineering Technicians serving on the Engineering/Technical Services Team of the White Mountain National Forest. The positions will be located at two separate duty stations with their primary focus being somewhat different in nature.

The first position with the ultimate duty station being the new Forest Headquarters Office in Campton, New Hampshire will be a facilities oriented position performing several duties

including: site technical manager for the new combined headquarters office and ranger station overseeing the many technical mechanical systems at this new LEED Gold Certified site, assistant facilities engineer working directly with the Facilities Engineer overseeing facility inspections, maintenance, and repairs across the forest, and finally serving as the engineering representative on vegetation management project interdisciplinary teams responsible for travel analysis and road planning, layout, and if necessary, design, for forestry and other integrated projects.

The second position to be filled will primarily be a roads oriented position and will be located at the Saco District Office in Conway, New Hampshire. This position will serve as the road maintenance supervisor working directly with the Forest Transportation Engineer responsible for overseeing, planning, and executing all road maintenance and transportation activities across the Forest. The position will also be responsible for supervising the Forest's road maintenance crew and equipment consisting of three permanent employees and a varying number of seasonal employees depending on annual budgets. The position will also serve as the engineering representative on vegetation management project interdisciplinary teams responsible for travel analysis and road planning, layout, and if necessary, design, for forestry and other integrated projects.

Major Responsibilities of both positions:

Both positions will work across the entire 780,000 plus acre White Mountain National Forest in a wide variety of engineering projects and situations from buildings to roads to bridges and dams.

Both positions will serve as a Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR) or contract administrator, guiding and evaluating contractor efforts and assessing technical progress in relation to the established schedule and resources allotted. Directs the inspections and testing of materials to ensure compliance with plans and specifications. Reviews contractor's progress charts, conducts field surveys, and verifies the fulfillment of obligations on projects of moderate complexity. Reviews overall work with the approved progress schedules to determine accomplishments as proposed and scheduled. Provides practical technical assistance to contractors, independently determining approaches and solutions to solve moderate to complex engineering issues or problems.

Identifies and investigates complex problems and conflicts in assigned area of responsibility involving project requirements, objectives, interfaces, or schedules. Develops and outlines approaches and plans for resolution of problems compatible with assigned area of responsibility and project objectives. Uses sound engineering judgment and experience to adapt guidelines and precedents and select commonly used approaches to overcome problems. Investigates a variety of problems experienced in construction that require modifying the original design.

Prepares project plans including overall project scheduling, major engineering requirements, and specifics related to project budgetary estimates. Meets project milestone schedules and

maintains project budget allocation and hardware or equipment requirements. Reviews and recommends modifications to civil engineering plans and specifications in order to improve utility, quality, appropriateness, and appearance of construction. Reviews plans and specifications to determine practicability within the scope of the environmental analysis. Reviews architect-engineer plans and specifications for adequacy and feasibility.

Prepares designs characterized by a variety of conditions. Prepares original designs and preliminary and final layouts. Coordinates assignments with other agency engineers and architects responsible for related features. Performs investigations of projects and project sites to determine conditions of existing facilities and systems and to secure data and information prior to the design of new systems and facilities. Conducts investigations to develop improved design of facilities and structures such as roads, trails, bridges, or other miscellaneous facilities and structures. Evaluates design objectives in accordance with environmental requirements and analysis.

THE FOREST:

The White Mountain National Forest encompasses nearly 800,000 acres in New Hampshire and Maine with year round recreation and forest management activities making it one of the busiest Forests in the east. The White Mountains have been a recreation destination for the northeastern US and eastern Canadian visitors for over two centuries with the White Mountain National Forest being established under the Weeks Act in 1914. With Boston, MA and New York City to the south and Montreal, Canada to the north, the Forest is located within a half days drive of approximately 70 million people. With summer recreation, foliage season in the fall, and winter sports activities during the winter months, this combination makes the White Mountain a very busy but equally challenging assignment. Characterized by rugged mountain peaks and the largest alpine zone in the East, the Forest has forty-eight summits of 4,000 feet and higher, including Mount Washington (6,288 feet), the highest peak in the Northeast.

The landscape of the White Mountain National Forest is unique in New England in that it provides opportunities that are generally not available on private or other public lands. The Forest's resources are managed to ensure that their social and economic values to the region will benefit present and future generations alike.

The National Forest is enjoyed for a wide range of high quality recreation opportunities, mountain and forest scenery, and an extensive trail network. The management emphasis is on non-motorized and dispersed activities, such as hiking, mountain biking, and backpacking, especially in primitive and semi-primitive settings. The Forest provides opportunities for activities that can only be pursued in mountainous terrain, such as rock and ice climbing and alpine skiing. The Forest also provides opportunities for many other recreation activities, such as camping in developed and dispersed areas, driving for pleasure, winter motorized trail riding, swimming, fishing, hunting, hobby mineral collecting, and natural and cultural resource interpretation.

The six Wilderness areas of the White Mountain National Forest provide opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation as populations around the Forest grow. In addition, Wilderness provides significant ecological values — filtering air pollution, sequestering carbon, providing unbroken wildlife habitat, and protecting watersheds. These lands are managed to allow natural processes to predominate, and to minimize the impacts of human intrusion. Wilderness on the White Mountain National Forest provides unique educational opportunities not found in other places. Our interpretive programs and materials allow visitors to become more familiar with natural processes, recognize the evolving role of humans in affecting landscape change, and see how those same processes occur around their homes.

The Forest continues to provide high quality hardwood and softwood sawtimber, as well as other forest products, primarily for local and regional markets. Sustainable forestry activities occur on about 47 percent of the Forest in a manner that is compatible with other resource and recreation objectives. During any one year, harvesting operations will be active on a very small part of the Forest, generally on no more than one percent of the overall landbase.

Transportation networks and facilities are provided to support the goals and objectives of the Forest Plan. The Engineering Group as part of the Tech Services Team manages 426 miles of high clearance roads and 151 miles of passenger car roads with a small but efficient (lean and mean!) Forest Force Account Road Crew. There are an additional 215 miles of designated Forest Highway in Maine and New Hampshire of which close coordination with the State DOT's is crucial. The terrain of the White Mountain's also has resulted in the need for many stream and river crossings resulting in the Forest managing 85 road bridges of varying ages and an every increasing number of trail bridges. The Forest has embarked on an aggressive bridge replacement program to bring the oldest bridges up to standard. All these crossings have also led to the increased significance and focus on aquatic passage analysis, planning, design, and construction.

Duty Stations:

The duty station for the first position is currently in Laconia, NH (until October 2009). Construction is well under way of a new combined Supervisor's Office/District Ranger Station in the Plymouth, NH, area (actual location is the Town of Campton, NH) approximately 30 miles northwest of Laconia at Exit 27 along Interstate 93. The access road, site layout, warehouses, and biomass heating plant construction are completed and office construction is scheduled for completion in September 2009. Move in is currently projected for mid October 2009. The new office will be a state of the art sustainable facility with a projected LEED Silver Certification. Biomass heat and electrical co-generation is planned as well as many other sustainable components. Employees moving to the forest are strongly encouraged to keep the office move in mind when making decisions about choosing where to live.

Specific Information about the Plymouth/Campton/Holderness, New Hampshire Area

General Location: Plymouth and the surrounding area are located at the southwestern gateway to the White Mountains Region in Central New Hampshire. Interstate 93 allows easy access to the State Capital of Concord, Manchester, and Boston, as well as Montreal and Quebec to the north. The Atlantic Seacoast is only a 2-hour drive.

Schools: Plymouth and the surrounding communities each have their own K-8 Elementary Schools. These students then all attend Plymouth Regional High School located in Plymouth. Plymouth is also home to Plymouth State University – one of the numerous schools in the New Hampshire University System. Calvary Christian School is also located in Plymouth serving K-12.

Local Services: Medical services for Plymouth and the surrounding area are provided by Speare Memorial Hospital located in Plymouth and serving the community since 1899. This now fully modernized critical access hospital has 25 beds and full ER services. There are also several medical clinics located in Plymouth, as well as a variety of specialty physicians and dentists in conjunction with Speare Memorial. Other hospitals within 1 hour's drive include Concord Medical Center in Concord, and Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Hanover, NH.

Specific Information about Conway, New Hampshire

Conway, New Hampshire and Surrounding Towns

The Saco Ranger District of the White Mountain National Forest is located in Conway, New Hampshire, a full-service community of approximately 9,000 people; the population swells to 25,000 on weekends and as much as 45,000 on holiday weekends. Located in the Mount Washington Valley, the town is 120 miles north of Boston, Massachusetts, 235 miles south of Montreal, Canada, and 60 miles west of Portland, Maine. Our District office is located on the Kancamagus Highway, a federally designated scenic byway.

The school system includes one high school, one middle school, and three elementary schools. The surrounding communities of Jackson, Bartlett, Albany, Madison and Tamworth provide elementary schools (some to grade eight) all sending their students to the high school in Conway. Many employees also live in Maine, with Fryeburg, Maine a short 10 miles away and also providing a full suite of schools. Fryeburg and surrounding communities have an historic public/private high school, Fryeburg Academy (founded in 1792), that attracts families to live in Maine.

Higher education opportunities are nearby. A campus for Granite State College is in Conway Village, and if you don't mind traveling some 60-75 miles, Plymouth State College, University of Southern Maine, and the University of New Hampshire are available. Adult education classes are offered at the local high school.

Health care services include full service hospitals in Conway and Bridgton, Maine, physicians, dentists, chiropractors, optometrists, physical therapists and mental health services at Memorial Hospital and local private offices. There are nursing homes and retirement centers within the community.

Libraries are located in all of the local communities. A local historical society chronicles the area's history. The Conway area boasts at least four childcare centers; others are available in the surrounding towns. Also available are caregivers in private homes. Numerous banks provide financial services to area residents. Both a professional and volunteer fire department provides emergency services to the local communities.

Numerous churches serve the Mount Washington Valley Area such as Seventh Day Adventist, Southern Baptist, Unitarian-Universalist, United Church of Christ, United Pentecostal, Non-Denominational, Methodist, Lutheran, Jehovah's Witness, Episcopal, Congregational, Roman Catholic, Church of Christ, Baptist, Anglican, and Assemblies of God.

The Portland Jetport is the closest international airport located 60 miles east in Portland, ME; other airports are located in Manchester, NH (90 miles) and Boston, MA (125 miles). A small airfield is located in Fryeburg, ME, which offers charters, rentals, leasing and lessons.

The town of Conway has an indoor hockey arena and many recreation programs for youngsters. Public tennis courts, covered bridges, baseball diamonds and public gazebo. The area contains almost all of the diversions that you can think of if you are willing to drive a piece to get there.

The standard cost of living in the Mount Washington Valley area is moderate to high. If you are looking to purchase, the average three bedroom two bath home will average around \$240,000. Housing in the surrounding towns may be less and many employees live in Maine, which is just a short 10 miles or so. Rental units are available and average from \$750 - 1000 and higher.

Recreation

Recreational opportunities are numerous, including summer activities of camping, hiking, climbing, horseback riding, fishing - both lakes and rivers, boating, swimming, surfing - the Atlantic Ocean is a short drive (about 60 miles), wildlife watching, tax-free shopping (North Conway is known for its tremendous variety of outlet and specialty shops), picnicking, the arts and other forms of entertainment to numerous to mention.

During the winter months, hunting, downhill and cross-country skiing, snomobiling, winter mountaineering, ice climbing and other winter sports are popular. There are many winter ski resorts within easy driving distance of Conway and Gorham including Mt. Cranmore, Wildcat, Attitash-Bear Peak, Bretton Woods, King Pine, Shawnee Peak, Sunday River, Loon Mt, and Cannon Mt. Extensive backcountry skiing can be found above treeline across the Presidential Range, and includes the famous steep bowl of Tuckerman Ravine. Several world class nordic centers serve cross-country skiers including: Jackson Ski Touring, Great Glen Trails, Bretton Woods, Bear Notch, and Mt. Washington Valley Ski Touring.

The duty station for the second position will be Conway, NH at the Saco Ranger Station site on the east end of the Kancamagus National Scenic Highway. The Forest maintains an engineering team at this site which works forest wide but focuses on the eastern and northern

portions of the Forest. This site also allows for close contact to Bartlett, NH and the Bartlett Experimental Forest where the Forest Road Crew and equipment operate from.

General Information about New Hampshire and the area:

Climate: The climate in central New Hampshire is characterized by four distinct seasons. The ground is generally snow covered from mid-December until April with temperatures averaging 20 degrees. Summers are relatively mild with a few days above 85 degrees.

Economic Background: There is currently no State Income Tax or Sales Tax except on lodging and meals (restaurant). Cost of living is considered to be high. Pristine lakes, mountains and ski areas make the area a magnet for tourists. The Forest is located within a half days drive of 70 million people.

Transportation: Both the Plymouth and Conway areas may be accessed by commercial bus lines that run to Boston, Concord, and Manchester daily. Boston's Logan International Airport is a 2-hour drive by bus or car. Air transportation is also available through the increasingly popular Manchester International Airport in Manchester, New Hampshire, which is about an hour's drive from either community.

Recreation: Both the Lakes Region of central New Hampshire and the White Mountain Region in northern New Hampshire offer excellent opportunities for a great variety of year-round outdoor recreation activities including camping, biking, hiking, backpacking, fishing, boating, hunting, mountain climbing, and Nordic and alpine skiing and snowmobiling in the winter.

Places of Worship: Both areas are served by a variety of places of worship representing numerous denominations and religions. These include Advent Christian, Assemblies of God, Baptist, Catholic, Christian Science, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Community, Congregational, Episcopal, Greek Orthodox, Independent Fundamental, Jehovah's Witnesses, Lutheran, Methodist, Nondenominational, Presbyterian, Unitarian Universalist and Jewish.

Housing: The housing market in the central NH region has remained active though prices have recently started to level off. There are several factors that affect both the cost and availability of real estate. The current low interest rates and limited housing stock means that demand is high. The surrounding region has a fairly significant demand for second/vacation homes that sometimes effects availability and pricing. Rental opportunities are available but normally not in significant numbers. Housing prices for 2-3 bedroom homes are normally in the range of \$175,000 to \$275,000 and 4 bedroom homes, when available, are generally between \$225,000 and \$325,000. The Forest does not have government quarters currently available.

Additional Contacts:

Additional information on the positions is available from the following:

Forest Engineer/Tech Services Tm Ldr: Bill Dauer, wdauer@fs.fed.us , (603) 528-8723
Assistant Forest Engineer for Facilities: Jason Anderson, Jasonleeanderson@fs.fed.us , (603)
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