

Forest Health Monitoring Program Monthly Update - Supplement September 22, 2014

Job Opportunities

The Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation is recruiting for a Forester III in the field of Forest Health Protection. This is a permanent professional-level position requiring substantial knowledge of forest insects and diseases. This position is located in Essex Junction, VT. Major duties include designing and conducting forest health and pest surveys, diagnosing tree health problems, conducting forest pest control programs, and providing forest health information to a variety of audiences. The person in this position will respond to public inquiries, develop pest management recommendations, analyze and archive data, prepare scientific reports and environmental assessments, coordinate coworkers and volunteers, supervise temporary staff, follow up on quarantine issues, consult governmental and private partners, conduct outreach through a variety of media, and make educational presentations. The position requires strong organizational, interpersonal, and communication skills, the ability to work both independently and collaboratively, and to work in remote and urban forested environments. Candidates must be willing to apply pesticides, conduct surveys in small aircraft, and travel occasionally out-of-state. Minimum qualifications are a bachelor's degree in forestry or a natural resources field AND four years or more at a professional level in forestry or a natural resources field, OR a master's degree or higher in forestry or a natural resources field AND two years or more at a professional level in forestry or a natural resources field. You can view and apply for this job on [the State of Vermont jobs website](#). Resumes cannot be submitted via email. Applications must be completed online before the deadline on **October 13, 2014** to be considered. If you have questions about this position, contact Barbara Schultz at barbara.schultz@state.vt.us. *The State of Vermont is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Applications from women, individuals with disabilities, veterans, and people from diverse cultural backgrounds are encouraged.*

The Pacific Northwest Region (R6) Forest Health Protection (FHP) of State & Private Forestry (S&PF) may soon advertise a permanent full-time Biological Scientist, GS-0401-9/11 position at the FHP Westside Insect and Disease Service Center in Oregon. The incumbent serves as the Washington State aerial survey lead on a FHP team that provides technical advice, assistance, and guidance on forest health issues to Federal, State, private and tribal land managers in Oregon and Washington. This position is eligible for telework and other flexible work arrangements, however, it is not a virtual position. The duty station will be in Sandy, Oregon. **Please be aware that management can use outreached positions to immediately fill a position**, without advertisement, if an employee submits a response and qualifies for noncompetitive placement. Additionally, **a formal vacancy announcement may not be issued** if an employee responds and qualifies for noncompetitive placement. Responses to this outreach may be used to identify the area of consideration and whether a vacancy announcement may be advertised multi-graded. This position reports to the Service Center Manager. The

incumbent is responsible for independently performing a variety of complex and recurring duties to support Forest Health Protection. These include planning, coordinating and conducting aerial and ground surveys using standards and guidelines for the collection, evaluation and reporting of aerial and ground sampled data; maintaining oversight responsibility for aviation safety in the FHP unit and its coordination with Forest Service, cooperators, and other agency personnel; developing data coverages and performing GIS based analysis and acting as the Forest Health Protection Unit Aviation Officer when delegated to do so. The position is nonsupervisory and is included in the bargaining unit. Major Duties:

- Serves as lead coordinator of aerial survey operations in a State. Coordinates with other FHP/Federal and cooperating State staffs to select areas to be surveyed, select/apply appropriate survey methods and procedures, conduct follow up ground surveys, and provide technical assistance and reports as requested.
- Conducts aerial surveys, identifying and mapping pest occurrences from small aircraft with follow-up ground surveys. Individual must maintain qualifications as Fixed Wing Flight Manager-Special Use.
- Acts as an alternate FHP Aviation Officer. Develops/writes/updates the R6 FHP Aviation Plan, actively promotes/coordinates unit aviation safety program, and manages/develops/approves project aviation safety plans for entire statewide aerial survey. Provides quality control for the program: resolve logistical/safety problems, monitor survey progress, and coordinate with the Forest Health Protection Aerial survey program manager regarding safety, communication and regulatory issues. Tracks and stays within the budget for the R6 Aerial Survey Program, contracts services for survey aircraft and/or pilots, and develops cooperative agreements with State aerial survey programs.
- Serves as a Geographical Information System (GIS) point of contact for the FHP unit. Coordinates with GIS agency staff, contractors/cooperator staffs, and other sketch mappers in accurately processing survey data. Processes raw data into final digital version for Regional and National databases.
- Participates in field surveys as needed to evaluate pest impact, ground truth polygons for aerial survey or those in conjunction with remote sensing field validation studies; occasionally supervises and monitors the work of temporary employees.

Those who are interested must meet the qualification requirements for the series covered by the [standards for Professional and Scientific Positions](#). The [OPM Qualification Standards Handbook Manual](#) is available for review at any federal personnel office or on the internet. If you are interested in applying for this position, please respond on the Outreach Notice Form attached to this Update as attachment 1 by **October 4, 2014**. Interested applicants, or those desiring further information, should contact Ben Smith, the primary contact, by phone 503-668-1761 (office) or by email at bsmith02@fs.fed.us. If you wish to respond, please complete the attached Outreach Response Form and email it to bsmith02@fs.fed.us by the response deadline. *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

FOR MORE
FHM
INFORMATION

Visit the [FHM homepage](#) and the [Forest Health Portal](#)
or access both via the [USDA Forest Service homepage](#)



OUTREACH RESPONSE FORM
Natural Resource Specialist - GS-0401-9/11
State and Private Forestry – Forest Health Protection
Pacific Northwest Region6, Regional Office



RESPOND BY: October 4, 2014 to bsmith02@fs.fed.us

Position Title/Series/Grade: Biological Scientist - GS-0401-9/11

Duty Station: Sandy,OR

Personal Information:

Name: _____ **Date:** _____
Address: _____ **Phone #:** _____
 _____ **E-mail:** _____

Work Experience:

Current title: _____

Series/Grade: _____

Location: _____

Are you currently a Federal employee? Yes ____ No ____

Type of appointment you are currently under: _____
 (Career, Career-Conditional, Excepted-ANILCA, Excepted VRA, etc.)

IF NOT A CURRENT PERMANENT (CAREER OR CAREER CONDITIONAL) EMPLOYEE, ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO BE HIRED UNDER ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL AUTHORITIES:

- | | |
|--|---|
| _____ Person with Disabilities | _____ Former Peace Corps Volunteer |
| _____ Veterans Readjustment | _____ Student Career Experience Program |
| _____ Disabled Veterans w/30% Compensable Disability | _____ Other |
| _____ Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998 | |

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN OUR VACANCY!

Return this form to:
 Email: bsmith02@fs.fed.us
 (503) 668-1761 (office) OR (503) 803--9188 (cell)

OR

Mail:
 Mt. Hood NF HQ
 16400 Champion Way
 Sandy, OR 97055
 Attention: Ben Smith