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Route To:

Subject: IFPM Positions and Announcements

To: Regional Foresters, Station Directors, Area Director, IITF Director and Deputy Chiefs

The purpose of this notice is to update you on the status of new national open continuous recruitment (OCR) announcements for permanent and temporary positions covered by the Interagency Fire Program Management (IFPM) implementation.

As you are aware, IFPM requirements for 13 fire positions are effective on October 1, 2010. On that date, positions covered by IFPM will have qualifications imposed as selective placement factors for purposes of consideration. In other words, in order to be qualified, an applicant must meet all the requirements for the IFPM position, i.e. basic OPM requirements for the positions, one year of specialized experience at the next lower grade, NWCG Incident Management Qualifications, and additional required training. Such positions are also covered by time in grade provisions as outlined in 5 CFR 300. For additional information regarding IFPM, please refer to: <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/management/ifpm/index.html>.

New OCR's have been created that include these requirements in the vacancy announcements and associated questionnaires. The current OCR's will be closed on September 30, 2010, and the new OCR's will open on October 1, 2010. Attached is a list of the current OCR's that will close and the new OCR's that will open. All applicants who have applied or are in the process of applying for one of the listed OCR's will be receive an Avue email to apply under the new vacancy announcement numbers. Any future single announcements for permanent and temporary IFPM positions opened on or after October 1, 2010 will be modified to include the IFPM requirements. Under President Obama's Hiring Reform initiative, one major component is to shorten the hiring process to make applying for a federal job easier for applicants. Consequently, the new questionnaires will not contain narrative response requirements to the knowledge, skills, and ability criteria. For more information on Hiring Reform, go to: <http://www.opm.gov/hiringreform/>.

Referral list requests issued on or before September 30, 2010 (from the current OCR announcements) will be good for 60 days from issuance. There will be no referral list extension requests approved after the 60 days from issuance. Selections will be made based on criteria in those announcements. Managers should be filling these vacancies strategically so candidates will be in compliance as near to the October 1, 2010, compliance deadline as possible. Any selectee from an old OCR who does not meet the IFPM requirements will be subject to the extension process identified in the implementation plan which will be distributed in the near future.



For permanent positions, referral lists from the new OCR's will not be issued for 28 days after opening. Supervisors and managers can submit requests for referral lists; however none will be issued until October 29 or shortly thereafter.

Please ensure this letter is promptly given wide distribution within the Forest Service fire community. If you have specific questions regarding filling a position, please contact your Human Resources Specialist for general advice and the ASC-HRM case manager if you have submitted an action to request a referral list or created an action in the national 52 Tracker.

If you have any specific questions regarding IFPM or FS-FPM requirements, please contact your Regional IFPM Lead. (See: <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/management/ifpm/contacts.html>.)

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