

OUTREACH NOTICE



Forestry Technician (Timber Sale Prep)

GS-462-07 PFT

Idaho Panhandle National Forests

Duty Locations:

Sandpoint Ranger District, Sandpoint, Idaho

Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

St. Joe Ranger District, St. Maries, Idaho

The Idaho Panhandle National Forests will soon be filling up to four Forestry Technician (Timber Sale Prep) positions, GS-0462-07. Positions will be located at the Sandpoint Ranger District in Sandpoint, Idaho, the Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho and the St. Joe Ranger District in St. Maries, Idaho. This position offers a challenging career opportunity for an individual seeking experience on a busy and complex forest. A team player with excellent communication abilities and a strong foundation of technical skills would be an excellent fit for this position.

To notify of expressed interest in these positions, please complete the Outreach Response Form at the end of this document and return to **Luke Hixson** at lhixson@fs.fed.us by the close of business on **April 11, 2016**. Respondents will be contacted and provided a link to the vacancy announcement when it is posted in USAJOBS. For more information about these positions, please contact the following individuals:

For the Sandpoint Ranger District: Luke Hixson at (208) 265-6660.

For the Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District: Jay Gibbson at (208) 769-3013.

For the St. Joe Ranger District: Joe Ford: (208) 245-6044.

ABOUT THE POSITION

The position located at the Ranger District level performing presale, sale administration and similar duties as part of the timber organization of the Forest.

The primary roles and responsibilities include:

- Prepares, develops and executes timber cruises and sample surveys to develop resource information and estimate quality and quantity of timber for purpose of appraisal, sales administration, management planning and logging plans.
- Assembles and compiles cruise data, and prepares reports and maps regarding areas cruised.

- Delineates timber sale units in accordance with NEPA documents and other instructions, considering variables such as accessibility, steep slopes, stream protection, nesting tree protection, wildlife impacts, fuels management, regeneration requirements and current logging practices. Brings to attention of the responsible individual situations where specific prescriptions do not fit ground conditions.
- Independently marks trees using and adapting complex marking rules in areas complicated by variations in type, species composition, defect, site, age, class, etc.
- Prepares timber sale appraisals considering resource protection needs, cooperative changes, volume estimates, logging methods, improvement and regeneration needs, etc.
- Prepares timber sale contract packages. Explains appropriate rules, regulations and contract provisions to prospective purchasers and operators.
- Prepares timber sale reports, describing resource and topographic features, and sale specific volume and appraisal estimates.
- Prepares timber sale maps and logging plans.
- Monitors and inspects timber sale operations having conventional contract requirements and conditions.
- Interprets, explains, and enforces timber sale contract provisions and Forest Service procedures, policies and standards. Makes minor design changes and assists with contract modifications during contract administration. Prepares written reports of all sale inspections and follows up on deficiencies.
- Performs final inspections and recommends acceptance of the contract for closure.
- Performs other multifunctional work as assigned such as wildlife, TSI, reforestation and fire control duties.

ABOUT THE IDAHO PANHANDLE NATIONAL FORESTS

The Idaho Panhandle National Forests <http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/> comprise about 2.5 million acres of public lands which lie within "the panhandle" of north Idaho and extend into eastern Washington and western Montana.

The Idaho Panhandle National Forests are an aggregation of the Coeur d'Alene and portions of the Kaniksu and St. Joe National Forests. There are eight local [points of contact](#) including the Supervisor's Office, six district offices and the [Coeur d'Alene Nursery](#). The Forest is within nine counties in three states: Boundary, Bonner, Benewah, Kootenai, Shoshone, Latah and Clearwater Counties in Idaho; Lincoln County in Montana; and Pend Oreille County in Washington.

More than half the state's surface water is on the Forest. These vast lakes and miles of rivers support a world class fishery. Rich in wildlife, the Forest is home to large game such as moose, black bear, elk and deer, as well as species such as grizzly bears, wolves and caribou that add to the sense of "wildness". From lush evergreen mountains to the shores of big water lakes, the Idaho Panhandle National Forest has a rich history that continues to link families and forest. Historic cabins and lookouts dot the landscape, while significant places such as Hiawatha Trail and Marble Creek Historic District add depth to the heritage. Fire has played, and continues to play an important role in the landscape's evolution. Forest roads and trails trace the past of American Indians, mining, logging, and Forest Service History.

Major transportation corridors through the Forest are Interstate 90, U.S. Highways 2, 10, 95, and 95A, State Highways 3, 57, and 200. Amtrak, Burlington Northern, Union Pacific, Potlatch and Spokane International Railroads cross the Idaho Panhandle. The Spokane International Airport is the main hub for air travel (a 40 minute drive west from Coeur d'Alene). The Coeur d'Alene Airport is a general aviation airport located north of the city near Highway 95.

ABOUT THE SANDPOINT RANGER DISTRICT AND NORTH ZONE

The Sandpoint Ranger District is located on the North Zone of the Idaho Panhandle National Forests (IPNF), which also includes the Bonners Ferry and Priest Lake Ranger Districts. The work will be spread over the three Ranger Districts based on priorities. The North Zone rangers will collectively approve a program of work to ensure the highest priority work is accomplished. The North Zone sustains an active and increasing timber sale program with a current target of 20 to 30 MMBF.

Sandpoint is a vibrant community, rich in arts and culture. The population of the city is 7,365 (2010 census). As the county seat, Sandpoint also services much of Bonner County, population 40,877 (2010 census). A wide range of people make up the Sandpoint community; many are native residents – 30 percent were born in Idaho – but most were born elsewhere, relocating after experiencing Sandpoint's friendly atmosphere and beautiful setting. This influx accounts for the area's rapid population growth. The County's population increased 35 percent between 1990 and 2010.

Surrounded by heavily forested mountains and nestled on the shore of the state's largest lake, Lake Pend Oreille, Sandpoint is known for its exceptional natural beauty. The town itself is attractive with many buildings of architectural distinction, several nice parks including City Beach and bustling events that reflect the vigor of the community.

The Sandpoint area is rich in natural resources and outdoor recreation opportunities. About 40 percent of northern Idaho is National Forest land, along with 65 percent of the shoreline of Lake Pend Oreille. As a result, camping, hiking, biking and other outdoor activities are popular in the area.

The weather in Sandpoint changes dramatically throughout the year, creating four distinct seasons. Summer temperatures, such as in July, reach average highs in the 80s and lows in the 40s. On occasion, the mercury spikes to 100, making it an ideal time to take advantage of the lake. Fall is a popular time for camping and sports activities; temperatures are cooler with long Indian summers, and the autumn leaves and beautiful weather make it the preferred season for many residents. Winter in Sandpoint revolves largely around Schweitzer Mountain Resort, which boasts an average annual snowfall of 300 inches. Winter temperatures, in January for example, average 26.3 degrees. The spring thaw brings warm weather and rushing creeks, making it a popular time for sports such as hiking and whitewater rafting. The rapid weather shift also offers the unique chance to ski in the morning in the mountains and golf in the valleys in the afternoon.

The area has several high schools, middle schools and elementary schools. Sandpoint High School, the largest high school in the area, serves around 1,400 students and is a focal point for the community, hosting sporting events, concerts and plays.

The area has numerous churches and religious organizations, with more than 30 in Sandpoint alone. In addition, Sandpoint has a modern library, numerous historical sites within the city limits, a modern hospital with newly expand health care options and many small vendor shops downtown.

ABOUT THE COEUR D'ALENE RIVER RANGER DISTRICT AND CENTRAL ZONE

The Coeur d' Alene River Ranger Office is located in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, a full-service community of over 40,000 people. Approximately 130,000 people live in Kootenai County. Located on the northern shore of Lake Coeur d'Alene, the city is 100 miles south of the Canadian border, 33 miles east of Spokane, Washington, and an hour's drive from the Montana state line. There are four distinct seasons, with summer average highs and lows of 82 degrees and 51 degrees; and average winter temperatures from 38 degrees and 26 degrees, with consistent amounts of snowfall.

Higher education opportunities are available. North Idaho College (NIC) is located in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, and 30 miles to the west of Coeur d'Alene, in Spokane, Washington, several colleges provide higher education opportunities. Moscow, Idaho is 80 miles south of Coeur d'Alene, and is the home of the University of Idaho. Washington State University is located just eight miles west of Moscow in Pullman, Washington, and Gonzaga University is located 33 miles away in Spokane. NIC, U of I, and other universities offer adult education classes in Coeur d'Alene and Post Falls. There are several high schools within 5 miles of the office. There are many grade schools, middle schools and opportunities for private schooling exist in the area as well as in Spokane.

Health care services include a full service hospital, physicians, dentist, chiropractors, optometrists, physical therapist, and mental health services at the Kootenai Medical Center. There is both an active professional and volunteer EMT program within the Coeur d'Alene community. In addition, there are many nursing homes and retirement centers. Professional and volunteer fire departments provide emergency services to the local communities. Community day care and caregivers in private homes are readily available.

There is a modern library with excellent reference and checkout books, and access to other libraries for patron-requested books. A local museum and historical society chronicle the area's history. Numerous banks as well as credit unions provide financial services to area residents.

A county-owned airstrip for private, charter planes, and emergency medical transportation are located ten miles north of Coeur d'Alene in Hayden, Idaho. Spokane International Airport is located just 40 miles west of Coeur d'Alene.

Many professional, service, and special interest organizations offer area residents opportunities for personal growth and community service.

Numerous churches of many denominations serve the community.

This area is often called "lake country" and Lake Coeur d'Alene is a center for recreation, as are the readily available National Forest lands. Recreational opportunities are numerous, including summer activities of camping, hiking, horseback riding, whitewater rafting, motorcycle riding, golfing, boating and water skiing, and fishing. During the

winter months, hunting, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling are popular. There are four winter ski resorts within easy drive of Coeur d'Alene, Mt. Spokane, Schweitzer, Silver Mountain, and Lookout Pass. The area contains several hundred miles of fishable streams and numerous lakes.

The city provides opportunities for organized youth sports such as Little League baseball and softball programs, soccer club, AAU basketball as well as City run recreational sports programs. A paved biking, jogging and walking trail runs along Coeur d'Alene Lake and extends 23 miles to Spokane, Washington. There are numerous theaters, bowling alleys, playhouses, and community sponsored events.

The standard cost of living in the Coeur d'Alene area is moderate. The median sale price of a home in 2012 was \$182,000. Rentals average around \$500-\$1100 per month.

ABOUT THE ST. JOE RANGER DISTRICT AND SOUTH ZONE

The St. Joe Ranger District comprises the South Zone of the Idaho Panhandle National Forests and consists of approximately 750,000 acres with backcountry and mixed ownerships. The main district office is in St. Maries, Idaho. We also have another office near Avery, Idaho with temporary government housing in the town of Avery. The St. Joe Ranger District stretches westward from the rugged Idaho/Montana border along the Bitterroot Mountains between the Clearwater Divide and the Coeur d'Alene Divide to the lower St. Maries River Valley. The St. Joe has some of the most productive and biologically diverse forest lands in the Columbia River Basin. It contains plants and animals of the central Rocky Mountains, the boreal forests, and the moist coastal forests. The St. Joe River, headwaters of the Little North Fork of Clearwater River, and the St. Maries River Basins are the dominant watershed.

Unique features of the diverse St. Joe Ranger District include the St. Joe Wild and Scenic River, Emerald Creek Garnet Area, Mallard Larkins Pioneer Area, Marble Creek Historic Area, Route of the Hiawatha Bike Trail, Hobo Cedar Gove Botanical Area, and the Snow Peak Cooperative Wildlife Management Area.

St. Maries offers the best of a small town setting with all of the necessary amenities and a host of extras. Located along the scenic St. Joe River, this town of approximately 2,800 boasts an active community spirit and true enjoyment of the outdoors. Recreational opportunities are numerous, including summer activities of camping, hiking, horseback riding, whitewater rafting, ATV riding and fishing. During the winter months, hunting, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling are popular. Silver Mountain and Lookout Pass ski resorts are close. The area contains several hundred miles of fishable streams and numerous lakes.

Numerous churches of many denominations serve the community. The community has a highschool, middle school and elementary school and several primary care physicians.

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho is an hour drive from St. Maries. It offers all the amenities of larger western cities. The major transportation corridors to St. Maries are State Highway 3 and Sate Highway 5. The Spokane International Airport is an hour drive north and west from St. Maries.

Please fill out the attached form on the next page and return.

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Idaho Panhandle National Forests

NAME:	
E-MAIL ADDRESS:	
MAILING ADDRESS:	
STREET ADDRESS:	
CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE:	
TELEPHONE:	

DUTY STATION(S) YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:

Sandpoint Ranger District	
Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District	
St. Joe Ranger District	

CURRENT STATUS:

Agency:	<input type="checkbox"/> USFS	<input type="checkbox"/> BLM	<input type="checkbox"/> Other			
Type of Appointment:	<input type="checkbox"/> Permanent	<input type="checkbox"/> Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/> Term	<input type="checkbox"/> VRA	<input type="checkbox"/> PWD	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Region:						
Forest:						
District:						
Series:						
Grade:						
Position Title:						

If you are not currently a permanent (career or career conditional) employee, are you eligible to be hired under any of the following special authorities?

People with Disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Veterans Readjustment Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disabled Veterans w/30% Compensable Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>
Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998	<input type="checkbox"/>
Former Peace Corps Volunteer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student Career Experience Program	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please return your completed form via email to Luke Hixson by COB April 11, 2016

Email:	lhixson@fs.fed.us
Subject:	GS-462-07 Forestry Technician (Timber Sale Prep)

Thank you for your interest in our vacancies!