Outreach Notice – Permanent Fire Positions
Nebraska National Forests & Grasslands
Forest Phase 1-C Fire Hire
Closing Date September 29th, 2023

The US Forest Service, Nebraska National Forests & Grasslands are outreaching for GS-9 and below permanent positions. All duty locations and positions will be announced, with vacancies being filled throughout the hiring event in the fall of 2023 across the Forest. Please apply for any positions you are interested in, even if current vacancy is not listed below as backfill opportunities may arise!

These position announcements are expected to be open from August 31st, 2023, through September 29th, 2023.
The vacancy announcements for these positions will be posted on the US Government's official website for employment opportunities at USAJOBS. When searching for positions in USAJOBS, please note, hiring utilizes a range of announcements including single vacancy announcements (SVAs) with open/close dates, some on National OCRs, and some on Regional OCRs. **All announcements can be searched in USAJobs by keyword 24-FIRE.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Series, Grade, PD</th>
<th>Duty Station</th>
<th>Point of Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forestry Tech Firefighter General (FFTR34)</td>
<td>GS-0462-03/04/FPL05 FFTR-34DH</td>
<td>Chadron, NE → Halsey, NE → Fort Pierre, SD → Wall, SD → Hot Springs, SD →</td>
<td>Pete Benes – <a href="mailto:Peter.Benes@usda.gov">Peter.Benes@usda.gov</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FS4885/FS4886</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mike Meisner - <a href="mailto:michael.w.meisner@usda.gov">michael.w.meisner@usda.gov</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Doug Gordon – <a href="mailto:Douglas.Gordon@usda.gov">Douglas.Gordon@usda.gov</a></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cory Richardson - <a href="mailto:Cory.Richardson@usda.gov">Cory.Richardson@usda.gov</a></td>
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<td>Carl Doaty – <a href="mailto:Carl.Doaty@usda.gov">Carl.Doaty@usda.gov</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Firefighter Engine (ENGRFF)</td>
<td>GS-0462-04/05 FS1476/FS1477</td>
<td>Chadron, NE → Halsey, NE → Fort Pierre, SD → Wall, SD → Hot Springs, SD →</td>
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<td>Mike Meisner - <a href="mailto:michael.w.meisner@usda.gov">michael.w.meisner@usda.gov</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Fire Engine Operator (AFEO)</td>
<td>GS-0462-05/06 FS6076/FS1478</td>
<td>Chadron, NE → Fort Pierre, SD → Wall, SD → Hot Springs, SD →</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire Engine Operator (FEO)</td>
<td>GS-0462-06/07 FS6079/FS1472</td>
<td>Chadron, NE →</td>
<td>Pete Benes – <a href="mailto:Peter.Benes@usda.gov">Peter.Benes@usda.gov</a></td>
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POSITION: Fire Engine Operator (FEO)
Announcement Number: 24-FIRE-P1R2389-FEOH-67DH
GS-0462-06/07 FS6079/FS1472
ENGB and ICT5 (currency required) S-211

POSITION DESCRIPTION: Serves as a full assistant to the supervisor of a Type 6 Fire Engine Module. The incumbent has primary responsibility for driving and operation of the engine in responding to wildland fires and other all hazard activities or other fuels related or ecosystem restoration projects. These crews perform work directly related to wildland fire suppression and control activities including suppression, preparedness, prevention, monitoring, and hazardous fuels reduction. May also perform duties in other fuels related or ecosystem restoration projects.

POSITION: Assistant Fire Engine Operator (AFEO)
Announcement Number: 24-FIRE-P1R2389-AFEO-56DH
GS-0462-05/06 FS6076/FS1478
FFT1 and S-290 (currency required)

POSITION DESCRIPTION: The Assistant Fire Engine Operator position assists the Supervisory Fire Engine Operator in the utilization of a 5-person engine crew in all aspects of fire management activities. These activities include but are not limited to: Initial attack, prescribed burning, project work, large fire support, mutual aid support, and assisting other programs on the district and forests.

POSITION: Senior Firefighter Engine (ENGRF)
Announcement Number: 24-FIRE-P1R2389-ENGRF-45DH
GS-0462-04/05 FS1476/FS1477
FFT1 and S-290 (currency required) For GS-05 / FFT2 + 90 Day Experience GS-04

POSITION DESCRIPTION: The Senior Firefighter assists the other 4 members on the engine with all aspects of fire operation activities. These activities include but are not limited to: Initial attack, prescribed burning, project work, large fire support, mutual aid support, and assisting other programs on the district and forests.

POSITION: Forestry Tech Firefighter General (FFTR34)
Announcement Number: 24-FIRE-P1R2389-FFTR-34DH
GS-0462-03/04/FPL05 FS4885/FS4886
FFT1 and S-290 (currency required) For GS-05 / FFT2 GS-04 / No Experience GS-03

POSITION DESCRIPTION: The Forestry Tech Firefighter assists the other 4 members on the engine with all aspects of fire operation activities. These activities include but are not limited to: Initial attack, prescribed burning, project work, large fire support, mutual aid support, and assisting other programs on the district and forests. Once FFT1 qualified with S-290 and time in grade, full potential GS05 Permanent Full Time.

About the Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands:

The NNFG encompasses over 1.1 million acres of land in both Nebraska and South Dakota, including five Ranger Districts and one Nursery. The Pine Ridge Ranger District includes part of the Nebraska National Forest and all of the Oglala National Grassland in the northwest corner of the state. The Bessey Ranger District includes a portion of the Nebraska National Forest in west-central Nebraska and the Samuel R. McKelvie National Forest in north-central NE. The Bessey Nursery is co-located with the Bessey Ranger District at Halsey, NE. The Fall River Ranger District and Wall Ranger District share management of the

The Supervisor’s Office is located in Chadron, Nebraska and is co-located with the Pine Ridge Ranger District. The Pine Ridge Job Corps Center is located 10 miles south of Chadron and is a close partner with the Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands.

**Process and Timeline**

**August 31st, 2023** – Vacancy Announcements OPEN in USAJOBS.

Applicants are encouraged to apply for multiple locations (where they would accept a position if offered).

**September 29th, 2023** – Vacancy Announcements CLOSE.

To be considered for these announcements during the centralized fire hire event, applicants must complete the application process and submit all required documents electronically by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) on the closing date.

**September 30th, 2023** – HR Qualification Review period begins. Applicants may receive qualification review notices from USAJOBS / HR in this timeframe.

**October 24th – December 1st, 2023**

- Hiring Managers will begin the hiring process. All applicants who have applied to the announcements on or before the listed closing date and are found to be qualified will be referred for consideration. Applicants should check the status of their application during this time in USAJobs.

- Supervisory Reference Checks and possible Interviews (this timeframe is an estimate). Ensure your references and supervisors are notified and available at the email address (preferred) or phone number provided on your application.

- Selections. Representatives from each unit will make recommendations for hiring. It is critical to be available via phone and email during this time.

**December 2023 – January 2023** – HRM Processing. Selected applicants will be processed through onboarding including personnel security, background checks, drug testing, etc. as required.

**Anticipated effective date (report to duty). Mid-February – late March 2024.**
**Direct Hire Authority**

These positions will be filled utilizing a Direct-Hire Authority. All applicants who meet the minimum qualifications, to include any selective placement factor(s), if applicable, will be referred to the selecting official. Preference Eligibility (Veterans Preference), Land Management Workforce Flexibility Act (LMWFA), and traditional rating and ranking of applicants is not applicable within Direct Hire Authority.

**Who May Apply**

Applications can be submitted from any U.S. citizen. Interagency Fire Program Management (IFPM) and Forest Service – Fire Program Management (FS-FPM) qualifications must be met prior to vacancy closing date. A current copy of your IQCS/IQS Master Record will be required for most positions. Before a certificate is issued to the selecting official, the resume and attached documentation is reviewed to ensure you meet all qualification requirements.

**Transfer of Station**

Transfer of Station (relocation) expenses will not be offered for selected candidates in Region 1. Selected applicants may qualify for relocation incentives in accordance with agency policy.

**How to Apply**

Print and read the entire announcement and all the instructions before you begin. Address specialized experience in your resume as denoted in “how you will be evaluated”.

Create a USAJOBS account

(If you do not already have one) at www.usajobs.gov. As part of your profile, set up automatic email notification to be informed of status of your application as it changes. Without automatic notification, you must log into your USAJOBS account to check on the status of your application.

Create a Resume with USAJOBS or upload a Resume into your USAJOBS account.

Customize your resume to ensure it documents duties and accomplishments you have that directly relate to the position to verify qualifications are met. Your resume must directly support your responses to the online questionnaire. Preview the questionnaire at the link at the end of the “How You Will Be Evaluated” section.

Apply Online

Within the vacancy announcement for which you are applying, click “Apply Online”. Follow the prompts to complete the Questionnaire, to attach documentation, and to submit. Your application and attached documents can be edited anytime while the announcement is open by selecting “Update Application” under "Application Status". The following documents are examples of what may be required and/or attached to constitute a complete application package. It is your responsibility to ensure all required documents are current copies, correctly attached, within the required timeframe, and legible. **Read the entire announcement for requirements.**

- **Resume** that includes the following information: 1) job information for which you are applying; 2) personal information; 3) education; 4) work experience, including start/stop
dates and hours worked per week; and, 5) other qualifications (including IQCS/IQS Master Record).

- Applicants should include a COVER LETTER outlining their current situation, desired/acceptable location(s), current home and work address, and any additional information to assist the hiring managers in making decisions. Resumes should include document headers with the applicant name.
- If a document is resubmitted, it replaces the previous submission, which means the previous document is no longer available to the Human Resources Office. If you are adding to, rather than replacing a previous submission, you must upload both the old document and the new document.

- IQCS/IQS Master Record showing your current training and qualifications.
- College Transcripts if education is required for meeting basic qualifications and/or you are substituting education for specialized experience. An unofficial copy is sufficient with the application, however, if selected, an official college transcript will be required.
- CTAP/ICTAP documentation if separated from Federal Service or pending separation based on a reduction-in-force (RIF) or other management workforce reduction action.

Human Resources Office Contact Information

HRM Contact Center

Phone: 877-372-7248 Option 2
TDD: 800-877-8339
Email: HRM_Contact_Center@usda.gov

Things to keep in mind when applying

- Vacancy Announcements in USAJOBS will give examples of specialized experience for each position. Ensure your resume matches the listed specialized experience requirement in plain language. This should be listed under a work experience that shows title, series, grade, and time period (include dates and hours/week) performed so HR can properly credit.
- Ensure all required documents are attached to your application. Review them for accuracy and currency. Ensure you have a current IQCS/IQS Master Record.
- Allow adequate time to apply for positions. The USAJobs application process takes time and detailed attention to requirements.

Other places to get further information

- FS Videos: Welcome to the Forest Service: Applying for a Job
- USAJobs YouTube Videos: How to Apply for Federal Jobs
**USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Region**  
Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands  

_Please respond by to:_  
Aaren Nellen – Training / Workforce Development Specialist  
**Aaren.L.Nellen@usda.gov**  
(c)605-515-3654

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Email:</td>
<td>Phone H:</td>
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<td>Phone C:</td>
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</table>

**Current Employer**

<table>
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<th>USDA FS Unit:</th>
<th>Other:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
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**If Federal Employee, Type of Appointment**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Permanent</th>
<th>Temporary</th>
<th>Student/Intern</th>
<th>Contractor</th>
<th>Other</th>
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</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Current Position Title:</th>
<th>Series/Grade:</th>
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</table>

**Position Applying To:**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Duty Station or Duty Stations:</th>
<th>How did you hear about this position?</th>
<th>Agency Contact:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Other:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**For fire positions only, have IFPM/FSFPM qualifications been met?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>I don't know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**For professional positions with a positive education requirement, have they been met?**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>I don't know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Are you eligible to be hired under any of the following special authorities?**

- [ ] Schedule A (persons with disabilities)
- [ ] Veterans Recruitment Act (VRA)
- [ ] Veterans with 30% Compensable Disability
- [ ] Veterans Employment Opportunities Act (VEOA) of 1998
- [ ] Former Peace Corps Volunteer
- [ ] Pathways Program (Students, Interns and Recent Graduates)
- [ ] Public Land Corps (PLC)
- [ ] Land Management Workforce Flexibility Act (Temporary/Term Land Management Agency Employees)
- [ ] Other: _please elaborate_

Submission of this form is voluntary – Thank you for your interest.