



# *Hoosier National Forest*

## **OUTREACH NOTICE**

### ***Permanent Fire – GS-4/5, GS-5/6, GS-7***

#### **Tell City, IN**



The Hoosier National Forest will soon be filling multiple vacancies for permanent (full-time) employment in the Fire Program. The duty station is located at the Tell City Ranger District Office in Tell City, IN. For additional details regarding each position, please contact Ryan Otto.

#### Position Particulars:

Table 1

Position	GS Level	USA Jobs Announcement #	Approximate Start Date	Location	Contact
Lead Forestry Technician Fire Engine Operator	7	24-FIRE-P1R2389-FEOH-67DH	3/10/2024	Tell City, IN	Ryan Otto 812-547-9254 - Office 812-603-0488 – Cell ryan.otto@usda.gov
Lead Forestry Technician Fire Engine Operator	5/6	24-FIRE-P1R2389-AFEO-56DH			
Forestry Technician Engine Crew Member	4/5	24-FIRE-P1R2389-ENGSRFF-5DH			

#### Positions are being filled in one of two ways:

1. Fire Hire centralized hiring event: **Vacancy announcements are anticipated to be open from August 31<sup>st</sup> thru September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023** on USAJOBS (<https://www.usajobs.gov/>). This hiring event utilizes direct hire authority. Please complete the attached Outreach Response Form and return it to the respective contact listed in Table 1 so that we know to look for your application and provide you with updates and announcement numbers. After applying, individuals are highly encouraged to monitor their listed email

and phone/voicemail as questions regarding preference in duty locations and other particulars will be queried. Phone inquiries can come from any area code associated within the United States.

**\*IMPORTANT\*: to be considered for positions on the Hoosier National Forest applicants must select “Tell City, IN” or “Location Negotiable”. Selecting “Location Negotiable” will allow qualified candidates to be considered for all duty stations included in the applicable USAJOBS announcement. If interested only in specific locations candidates are encouraged to select only those duty station locations in the USAJOBS announcement.**

2. Veterans Recruitment Appointment (VRA) can also be used to fill any the above positions. If eligible for VRA (see <https://www.usajobs.gov/help/working-in-government/unique-hiring-paths/veterans/vra/>) the applicant can avoid the USAJOBS application process. Furthermore, if filled using this method the start date could be sooner. If eligible for VRA and qualified for one of the listed positions, please reach out directly to the contact listed in Table 1 for specifics. Documentation of veteran’s status (e.g. DD-214) and a resume are required.

### **Description of the Forest:**

The Hoosier National Forest encompasses nearly 204,000 acres in South Central Indiana stretching south from Bloomington to the Ohio River and is located within a drive of two hours or less from Cincinnati, Ohio; Evansville and Indianapolis, Indiana; and Louisville, Kentucky. Two ranger districts include the Brownstown District in Bedford, Indiana and the Tell City District in Tell City, Indiana.

The Hoosier National Forest sits in the unglaciated hills of Southern Indiana. The Forest provides a range of opportunities and resources for people to enjoy. The many recreation opportunities including camping, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, mountain bike riding, and viewing scenery. The only congressionally designated wilderness in Indiana, the 13,000 acre Charles C. Deam Wilderness provides opportunities for users desiring higher levels of solitude. In addition the Forest has over 265 miles of trails for hiking, biking, or horseback riding.

The Hoosier works to provide integrated resource management on the complex mosaic that make up National Forest System Lands in Indiana. Only 31% of the land within the Forest Boundary is National Forest System land, this scattered ownership pattern adds a complexity to the management of this valued natural resource. Forest managers are responsible for protection of some very unique resources. The Hoosier is located in an area rich in caves and karst features. These underground features are largely unknown to most Forest visitors but are home to many species that are specific to these habitats. The Hoosier has five endangered or threatened species: the fanshell and rough pigtoe mussels reside in rivers to the south; the gray, Indiana and northern long-eared bats and their habitat occur throughout the Forest. The wildlife program on the Forest focuses on management to provide habitat for these species as well as many others that occur throughout the area.

The Forest works to maintain and restore sustainable ecosystems. The vegetation management on the forest focuses on promoting native oak and hickory regeneration, reducing nonnative pine planted to restore over farmed lands, and reducing nonnative invasive plant and animal species.

The Hoosier National Forest organization is non-traditional with an emphasis on placing resource specialists closer to the ground. Certain Forest-level staff functions that traditionally reside in a Supervisor’s Office work in a team environment and serve as District-level program managers. This serves to broaden District interdisciplinary teams and improve technology transfer, customer service, and quality of stewardship. We view the Districts as the backbone of the Forest Service organization and emphasize customer service at that level. **Additional information and an orientation video of the Forest may be found at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/hoosier>.**

### **Bedford, IN.**

The Hoosier National Forest Supervisor's Office is co-located within the Brownstown Ranger District in Bedford, Indiana. Bedford is a full-service community of approximately 14,000 residents. Bedford has excellent schools, outstanding shopping, cultural amenities, and small town atmosphere. Bedford is in the Eastern Time zone and features a broad-based economy. Major area employers include GM Powertrain, Indiana Limestone, Manchester Tank, and Stone City Products. Bedford is known as the "Limestone Capital of the World" because of the abundance and quality of the limestone which has been used on many landmark buildings in the U.S., including the Empire State Building and the Pentagon.

Bedford has five elementary schools, one junior high school, one high school (includes area vocational school) and Bedford City College, which offers adult education and college credit courses. Eighteen miles north of Bedford is Bloomington, home of Indiana University. In addition, Bedford is within commuting distance of six degree granting institutions. Indianapolis is approximately 70 miles north and is the state capitol.

Housing prices, for purchase or rent, are reasonable and affordable. Local services include a wide variety of places of worship, a library, two hospitals providing comprehensive medical services, and a variety of banking, shopping facilities, and restaurants.

<u>Population:</u>	City – 13,868
<u>County:</u>	Lawrence
<u>Location:</u>	70 miles south of Indianapolis, Indiana
<u>Average Summer Temperatures:</u>	85° / 64°
<u>Average Winter Temperatures:</u>	37° / 19°
<u>Average Annual Precipitation:</u>	46.6 inches
<u>Closest Commercial Airport:</u>	Indianapolis International Airport, Indianapolis, IN.

There are several communities within commuting distance of Bedford. Links are provided below:

[Bedford, Indiana](#); [Bloomington, Indiana](#); [Mitchell, Indiana](#); [Seymour, Indiana](#)

### **Tell City, IN.**

The Hoosier National Forest Tell City Ranger District Office is located in Tell City and Perry County. Tell City is located on the banks of the Ohio River and was founded in 1858 by the Swiss Colonization Society for Swiss and German immigrants. Settlement occurred early due to the cities proximity to the Ohio River. Community development was directly related to river travel. The city recognizes it's Swiss and German heritage each August at the annual Schweizer Fest. Perry County has a population of approximately 18,900 people, with an estimated 7,500 in Tell City. The area observes central time zone.

Major industries in the area include lumbering, manufacturing, and farming, additional area employers include ThyssenKrupp Waupaca, Mulzer Crushed Stone, Accent Marketing Services, ATTC Manufacturing, and Branchville Correctional Facility.

Perry County has 3 public elementary schools (1 in Tell City); 3 junior –senior high schools (7-12) (1 in Tell City). In addition there are two private schools located in the county. Perry County also boasts a state community college campus (Ivy Tech). Perry County Hospital is located between the communities of Tell City and Cannelton. Housing

in Perry County is very affordable. Median home values in Tell City are around \$87,000.

Perry County's rolling hills along the Ohio River provide amazing views of natural beauty, the area is well suited to outdoor recreation pursuits. Several boat ramps on the Ohio River provide access for boating and fishing. Five man-made lakes in Perry County offer water-based recreation opportunities.

<u>Population:</u>	City – 7,552
<u>County:</u>	Perry
<u>Location:</u>	90 miles south-west of Louisville, KY. 30 miles north-east of Owensboro, KY.
<u>Average Summer Temperatures:</u>	87° / 68°
<u>Average Winter Temperatures:</u>	41° / 25°
<u>Average Annual Precipitation:</u>	48.43 inches
<u>Closest Commercial Airport:</u>	Louisville International Airport, Louisville, KY.

Find more information about the Tell City area by visiting <http://www.perrycountyindiana.org>.

The following link contains videos highlighting the quality of life and schools in Perry County:  
<http://www.pickperry.com/videos.html>.

### **Climate:**

The temperature in southern Indiana varies north to south. Although Indiana sometimes has temperatures below zero during the winter, the average temperatures in January range between 17°F and 35°F. Rainfall is distributed evenly throughout the year. The average annual precipitation statewide is 40 in, ranging from about 35 in (89 cm) near Lake Michigan to 45 inches along the Ohio River; from, 1981 - 2010, Indianapolis had an average of 42 inches annually. The annual snowfall averages about 26 inches.

### **Places of Worship:**

Churches representing all major denominations; as well as Jewish, Islamic, Buddhist and other places of worship; can be found in communities across the area.

### **Economy:**

Real estate in the area is moderately priced, as are utilities. Tourism is a developing economic force in the area. In recent years, several wineries and craft breweries have opened, adding to the tourism opportunities in the region.

### **Healthcare:**

Healthcare facilities serving the area include full facility IU Health Bedford Hospital and St. Vincent Dunn Hospital, in Bedford, along with full service hospitals and medical practices in Bloomington. Services at these hospitals include cardiac units, oncology and neonatal units. Other hospitals providing care in the general area of the Hoosier include Perry County Memorial in Tell City, Indiana; Deaconess in Evansville, Indiana; and University of Louisville Hospital in Louisville, Kentucky. All the hospitals provide 24-hour emergency room physician coverage and specialists.



### **Recreational and Cultural Activities:**

The region has many opportunities for outdoor activities as well as small town festivals and fairs. In addition there is easy access to

larger cities including Cincinnati, Ohio; Chicago, Illinois; Indianapolis, Indiana; Louisville, Kentucky; Nashville, Tennessee; and St. Louis, Missouri.

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Please complete your response by **September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023**. Responses may be sent via email, USPS, or fax.

E-mail: ryan.otto@usda.gov  
Mail: Ryan Otto  
Hoosier National Forest  
248 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Tell City, IN 47586

Fax: (812) 547-9260  
Desk: (812) 547-9254

**Positions Applying For (from Table 1):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Red Card Qualifications, if any :** \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you qualify for Veterans Recruitment Appointment (VRA)?**    Yes        No

**Are you currently a Federal Employee?**        Yes                No

**If YES, CURRENT REGION/FOREST/DISTRICT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CURRENT SERIES AND GRADE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CURRENT POSITION TITLE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**AGENCY EMPLOYED WITH:**    \_\_\_\_\_USFS    \_\_\_\_\_BLM    \_\_\_\_\_OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF APPOINTMENT:	_____PERMANENT	_____TEMPORARY	_____Other

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  
\_\_\_\_\_VETERANS RECRUITMENT ACT  
\_\_\_\_\_DISABLED VETERANS W/30% COMPENSABLE DISABILITY  
\_\_\_\_\_VETERANS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES ACT OF 1998  
\_\_\_\_\_FORMER PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER  
\_\_\_\_\_STUDENT CAREER EXPERIENCE PROGRAM  
\_\_\_\_\_OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

**How did you learn of this opportunity?** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for your interest in this position.**