

OUTREACH NOTICE

**Gila National Forest
Silver City, NM**

**Ecologist Forest Plan Revision Team
GS-0408-11**

Please respond by June 7, 2016



The **Gila National Forest** will be filling a **GS-0408-11, Ecologist Lead for Land Management Planning**. This is a term position, with an estimated appointment period of three to four years. The duty station is located in Silver City, NM at the Forest Supervisor's Office. This notification is being circulated to inform prospective applicants of this upcoming opportunity.

The position is expected to be advertised on usajobs.gov in 2016. Those desiring further information should contact Art Telles, Natural Resources Staff Officer, Gila National Forest at (575) 388-8417 or atelles@fs.fed.us.

Position

This position is located on the Gila National Forest where the incumbent serves as the Ecologist for Land Management Planning. The Planning Team will be focusing on revising the Gila National Forest's land and resource management plan (forest plan) over the next three to four years to incorporate changed conditions and best available science under the 2012 Planning Rule. The revised plan will be a collaboratively developed, science-based framework employing integrated resource management to guide project and activity-level decision-making.

The incumbent will be responsible for coordinating work with the Forest Planner and the Natural Resource Staff Officer involving the development and integration of long-range functional resource plans into a cohesive land and resource management plan. The individual selected will be a member of the Forest Plan Revision Core Team, working closely with various interdisciplinary specialists, including the Forest Planner, Hydrologist, NEPA Coordinator, Timber and Fuels Specialists, GIS specialists, and Public Affairs Officer. This position will also involve substantial innovative work with collaborative groups; Forest Leadership Team; federal, state, and local officials; community leaders and organizations; and the general public. This is an outstanding opportunity for professional development, community involvement and program leadership.

Duties include:

- Ecologist for the preparation, development, and revision of the Forest Plan.
- Staying abreast of the legal aspects of forest planning and associated planning regulations as they pertain to ecological issues.
- Compiling, evaluating, and analyzing data addressing ecological influences and dynamics, and natural processes of the forest as they relate to multiple uses (ecosystem services).
- Helps coordinate collaboration and participation efforts with various stakeholders including Tribes, other Federal agencies, State and local governments, individuals, and public and private organizations or entities during the planning process.
- Coordinating with the appropriate Forest and Regional Staff's/Program Managers related to soil, water, air, vegetation, fire and fuels, range, and recreation aspects of the plan.

- Giving professional presentations at various conferences and at other public forums.

Candidates that bring the following experience or background are especially suited to this position:

- Knowledge of the principles and practices of land management planning.
- Understanding of the legal foundation for land use regulation and National Forest land and resource management.
- Ability to work effectively with other resource specialists in an interdisciplinary setting.
- Knowledge of principles of southwestern vegetation ecology including drivers, stressors, and trends, and evaluating their influences on ecosystem integrity.
- Knowledge of principles and practices of research and data collection.
- Effective communication and writing skills.
- Understanding of the interaction of natural processes and how these processes are affected by natural and human related disturbance.
- Drafting desired conditions and other plan components which are designed to move toward ecological sustainability.
- Knowledge of computer hardware and software programs, which should include Microsoft Office, State and Transition Modeling (VDDT), ArcGIS, and Internet applications.
- The ability to be flexible and think on your feet.

Gila National Forest

Every National Forest offers its own unique qualities. The Gila's beauty is in its diversity of rugged mountains, deep canyons, meadows, and semi-desert country. It is one of the more remote and least developed National Forests in the southwest. The Gila is the sixth largest national forest in the continental United States, covering 3.3 million acres of forest and range land.

The forest has a rich history of the Mogollon and Apache Indians, Spaniards, Mexicans, ranchers and prospectors. A few of the personalities from the past that have left their mark in the Gila include Apache Chiefs Mangas Coloradas and Geronimo, conservationist and author of the Sand County Almanac Aldo Leopold; Billy the Kid and other outlaws; and renowned lion hunter Ben Lilly.

Another unique beauty of the Gila National Forest is its wilderness. The Gila, Aldo Leopold, and Blue Range Wilderness areas offer unparalleled hiking and horseback riding. The 558,065-acre Gila Wilderness, created in June 1924 at the urging of the conservation pioneer Aldo Leopold, was the world's first designated wilderness.

Community: Silver City (or related area) www.townofsilvercity.org and the surrounding communities of Bayard, Santa Clara, Tyrone and Hurley are located in southwest New Mexico. Main access to Silver City is via Highway 180 north from Interstate 10 at Deming, NM. The elevation is 5,900 feet above sea level. The population of Silver City is approximately 13,000 and Grant County is about 29,000. Silver City was recently selected as one of the healthiest places to live and retire. It placed in the top 1% of over 3,000 communities our size or larger. Downtown Silver City is undergoing a revitalization effort and features many locally-owned shops and lots of art galleries. The community has two libraries and churches of all denominations. There are two newspapers, motels, radio stations, city and county offices and local retail businesses. Area attractions include City of Rocks State Park, Historic Pinos Altos and Western New Mexico University Museum <http://www.wnmu.edu/univ/museum.htm>.

Climate: Silver City boasts four gentle seasons. The average annual temperature is 54 degrees. May is the driest month of the year while July is the wettest. The annual average precipitation is 15.69 inches.

Medical: Silver City has a Regional hospital <http://www.grmc.org/>, several medical clinics, ambulance service, an emergency care clinic, and physicians of all specialty areas, dentists and nursing homes.

Schools: Grant County has two public school districts. There are several private schools and alternative schools. Western New Mexico University www.wnmu.edu/ offers four-year programs and two year technical programs in areas such as education, nursing, basic arts and sciences and several graduate programs.

Employment: Major employers are Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold, Gila Regional Medical Center, Silver City Schools, Western New Mexico University, Walmart, Town of Silver City, Grant County, and the Gila National Forest.

Housing: Rentals range from \$600-\$1000 per month for an average three bedroom home/apartment. Prices of single family homes range from \$85,000 and up.

Transportation: The nearest commercial airports are in El Paso, TX (3 hours), Tucson, AZ (3 hours) and Albuquerque, NM (4 hours). Grant County airport provides daily services. There is a shuttle service for transportation to Las Cruces and El Paso and a local transportation service to all the surrounding communities.

Additional Information: For additional location information visit the following web sites:

Gila National Forest Website	www.fs.fed.us/r3/gila
Grant County Chamber of Commerce	www.silvercity.org
Silver City Chamber of Commerce	www.townofsilvercity.org

Outreach Response Form

R3, Gila National Forest, Supervisors Office
Ecologist
GS-0408-11 (One Position)

Please return by June 7, 2016

If interested in this position, please complete and submit the outreach form located below to Art Telles, atelles@fs.fed.us.

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Name:		Date:	
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Address:	
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Email Address:	
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Phone:	
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Are you currently a Federal employee?	YES:		NO:	
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IF YES: Current Agency and location:	
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Current Title/series/grade/Level:	
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Type of Appointment:	Permanent		Term		Temporary	
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If you are not a current permanent employee (career or career conditional), are you eligible for appointment under any of the following special authorities?	
	Person with Disabilities
	Veterans Recruitment Act
	Former Peace Corps Volunteer
	Disabled Veteran with 30% Compensable Disability
	Pathways Program
	Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998
	Other, please describe:

Thank you for your interest in our vacancy!

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