

# OUTREACH NOTICE

## Forester Trainee GS-460-5/7/9



*(Sawtooth Mountains, Photo taken from Stanley, ID mid-summer)*

USDA FOREST SERVICE  
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION, R4  
SAWTOOTH NATIONAL FOREST

## Forester Trainee GS-460-5/7/9

The Sawtooth National Forest will soon be advertising for a permanent full-time Forester, GS-460-5/7/9 for the Sawtooth National Recreation Area (NRA). The position will be stationed at either the Sawtooth NRA Headquarters Office (Ketchum) or at the Stanley Ranger Station office (Stanley) and will serve as a trainee position in support of the Forest Timber Management Program. We are seeking an innovative and resourceful individual looking for a challenge in timber management.

### **Position Description:**

As a trainee, this position will receive formal and on-the-job instruction and training designed to familiarize the incumbent with functions and operations of the organization, and to provide experience in the practical application of basic forestry principles, theories, methods, techniques and practices. The incumbent will assist higher grade foresters, or work as a team member in accomplishing selected portions of projects. Target grade for this position is a permanent full-time GS-460-09 Forester.

### **THE SAWTOOTH NATIONAL RECREATION AREA:**

The Sawtooth NRA is often described as the Heart of Idaho for its central location and the emotions generated by its stunning beauty. The Sawtooth NRA is 756,019 acres. Elevation ranges from 5,800 to over 11,000 feet above sea level. This high mountain region sits at the convergence of three mountain ranges and provides some spectacular alpine scenery. In addition to dozens of perpetually snow-capped peaks, there are countless lakes, thick forests and the headwaters of the Salmon River churning its way through the spectacular Sawtooth Valley.

The Sawtooth NRA has two full time administrative offices, the Sawtooth NRA Headquarters, located eight miles north of the cities of Ketchum and Sun Valley, and the Stanley Ranger Station located near the town of Stanley, 60 miles north of Ketchum and Sun Valley in the heart of the Sawtooth Valley.

The Sawtooth NRA is a unique place operating under its own legislation--Public Law 92-400--as well as Forest Service directives. Within the 756,000 acres of land we manage designated and proposed Wilderness, heavily used developed sites, water and land based recreation, timber, grazing, historic, visual, fire management, interpretive, watershed, plant, and wildlife programs. We administer 91 conservation easements which protect

over 86% of the private land within the Sawtooth NRA from further development. The Sawtooth NRA also has a high number of Special Uses in lands and in recreation (recreation residences, organization camps, resorts, recreation events, and outfitter and guides).

Recreation on the Sawtooth NRA is year-round however summer is the busiest time of year. Recreation activities includes developed and dispersed camping, hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, floating, fishing, lake shore recreation, mountain biking, motorcycling, snowmobiling, and skiing. The Sawtooth NRA has a campground concessionaire permit that manages 35 campgrounds, 3 boat ramps, and 8 day-use areas. Forest Service crews maintain an additional 42 developed recreation sites including boat launches, picnic areas, trailheads, developed dispersed campsites, scenic overlooks, rest areas, interpretive sites, river access sites and groomed snowmobile and cross country ski trails. The Sawtooth NRA is also the headwaters of the Salmon River and the center point for Sockeye Salmon recovery. It is also a critical area for Chinook, Steelhead and bull trout recovery. Administrative facilities are spread throughout the Sawtooth NRA and include two ranger stations (mentioned above), a work center, 10 permanent residences, 6 seasonal residences, 9 seasonal trailers, approximately 19 RV sites, and 3 RV dump stations.

### **The Communities**

***Stanley, Idaho*** is a remote rural community with a base population of 75, located at the foothills of the Sawtooth Mountains. This community is a “designated community” meaning it was set aside when the Sawtooth NRA was designated by Congress. The relationship with this community and the Forest Service is intertwined by this designation. It is known for its excellent recreation opportunities; hiking, mountain biking, fishing, camping, hunting, white water rafting and kayaking, family reunions, snowmobiling, snowshoe adventures and cross country skiing. There is a brief but stunning summer season. The climate can be extreme. Snow may extend from November through mid-May with temperatures dropping to -40(F) degrees for a week or so in January or February. The star-filled evenings and sunshine-filled winter days help make up for extremes in temperature. Currently, the Deputy Area Ranger and a small staff operate and reside at the Stanley Ranger Station. There is a small but fine school for grades K-8. Higher grades commute via the river road along Highway 75 to Challis, approximately 1+ hour (in good weather) each way. The area has a year round Medical Clinic staffed with an on-call physician’s assistance. Major medical services are available 60 miles south in Ketchum, Idaho, or 120 miles southwest in Boise. The same distances apply for shopping for other than basic grocery items. There are several sporting goods shops and good restaurants open in the summer months. Housing may be available.

***Ketchum, Idaho*** is a resort community located in the heart of the Wood River Valley. The quaint communities of Hailey and Bellevue are located 15 and 25 minutes south of Ketchum, and are where most of the valley's population reside. The area is known for its outstanding scenery and weather, as well as an unlimited number of recreation opportunities. Popular summer activities include whitewater rafting and kayaking on numerous area rivers, backpacking, mountain biking on world class trails, climbing, blue-ribbon trout fishing, hunting and camping. Winter recreation includes skiing at Sun Valley's Bald Mountain Ski Area, incredible backcountry skiing, one of the finest nordic and skate-skiing trail systems in the nation, and many snowmobile trails. In addition to outdoor pursuits, the resort atmosphere at Sun Valley hosts many cultural events not normally found in small towns, including summer symphonies, jazz series and arts festivals. There is an excellent school system in the Wood River Valley for grades K-12. Several private pre-schools and kindergartens, including a Montessori school, are operated in Ketchum and Hailey. The College of Southern Idaho operates a satellite program in Hailey and offers Associate of Arts Degrees and adult education courses. St Luke’s Wood River Medical Center and numerous clinics offer a variety of general and specialty medical services. Both rentals and home prices in the local communities are quite high. The average price of an apartment rental ranges from \$900 to 1,500 per month. House rentals range from \$900 to \$3,000 per month. The purchase price of homes ranges from \$100,000 to \$1,250,000 and beyond. The low end homes have a commuting distance of 20 miles one way, which is from 25 to 45 minutes commuting time one way. Government housing is not available. The Valley does not have the large population typical of larger urban areas, yet has all the amenities, making this a desirable place to live.

### **IF INTERESTED:**

For more information about the job, please contact either Karl Fuelling - Sawtooth Forester by phone at (208) 677-8307 or via email at [kfuelling@fs.fed.us](mailto:kfuelling@fs.fed.us) ; for community information contact Barbara Garcia – Acting Area Ranger by phone at (208) 774-3034 or via email at [bagarcia@fs.fed.us](mailto:bagarcia@fs.fed.us) .