

OUTREACH



Biological Scientist GS-401-11

**George Washington-Jefferson National Forests
Clinch Ranger District
Wise, Virginia**

In the near future the Clinch Ranger District will be sending out a vacancy announcement for the position listed above. This position is located on the Clinch Ranger District, working under the direction of the District Ranger. The duties will be split evenly with 50% of the time administering the Mt. Rogers National Recreation Area and the Clinch Ranger District's special uses program and 50% of the time serving as the Clinch District NEPA Coordinator. This position will also provide oversight of the Clinch District recreation program. Personnel currently under a 460 series are also eligible to apply to the vacancy announcement for this position.

The Special Uses Program involves administering aspects of a land use authorization program that include a variety of use authorizations and use types (recreation and non-recreation special uses; federal and private mineral rights). This position provides technical assistance to two line officers and their associated specialists regarding complex land use authorization practices and procedures. Monitors complex land use authorizations for compliance with a variety of operation, maintenance, and protection measures.

Other major duties include:

- Facilitates the NEPA process on the Clinch Ranger District, keeps it flowing on schedule, and directs interdisciplinary team(s) in supporting the decision-making process. Conducts and/or participates in public meetings, and meets with individuals as needed, to ensure all elements of the public are consulted, if required. Documents and completes records of decision for internal review and eventual signature by the District Ranger or Forest Supervisor.

- Gathers and analyzes pertinent data through all phases of the project to ensure plans are carried out, appropriate processes and practices are used, regulations are adhered to, and objectives are met. Identifies problems and recommends solutions.
- Coordinates all aspects of internal and external review of NEPA documents for projects. Advises line officer of compliance with all applicable environmental laws in actions to be authorized by the USDA Forest Service.

This position directly supervises three technicians full-time, and two technicians with recreation as a collateral duty.

About the Clinch Ranger District: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/gwj/clinch/>

The Clinch Ranger District is located in Southwestern Virginia and is one of 8 Ranger Districts in the George Washington and Jefferson National Forest. The district has a well integrated and diverse program of work on its 91,571 Acres spread over 4 counties which offers many unique challenges and rewarding opportunities. The district has an active vegetation management program with an average Timber Volume Sold of 5,000 CCF, 2,500 to 5,000 acres of Hazardous Fuels reduction, and Wildlife Habitat work. Recreation abounds throughout the district, with several campgrounds, developed picnic areas, and over 130 miles of hiking, biking, and horse trails. Mineral activity on the Clinch includes about 100 active gas wells with a possibility for 20 plus wells in a new gas field and an application for coal prospecting on federal, and outstanding/reserved minerals.

The Southwest Virginia area: <http://www.heartofappalachia.com/>

The Community: <http://www.wisecountychamber.org/>

The Clinch District office and work center are located in the town of Wise, Virginia, on State Route 646. Wise County lies at the heart of the Clinch District and is home to most of the districts employees. Wise County offers a wide range of services, housing, educational opportunities and leisure activities.

Southwest Virginia has a moderate climate with a mean January temperature of 36 degrees and a mean July temperature of 80 degrees. Average annual rainfall is 35 - 40 inches and average annual snowfall is 25 inches. Elevations range from a low of 1400 feet to a high of 4200 feet. The town of Wise is 2500 feet above sea level.

An average three bedroom home can be found in the \$90,000 - \$140,000 range with several higher priced homes in and around the community. Rental properties, though sometimes scarce, range from \$450 to \$750 per month.

The University of Virginia's College at Wise is a four year liberal arts college offering Bachelor of Arts and science degrees. The college is located across the road from the Clinch Ranger Station. Mountain Empire Community College is also located in the county and offers associate degrees, transfer programs, certificate programs, and specialized training. Some of our employees have taken advantage

of the close proximity to these schools to complete education goals while working full time.

Wise County and the Clinch Ranger District offer a variety of recreational and cultural opportunities. The Pro-Art Association attracts high quality performances of ballet, symphony, opera, Broadway plays and many others. The Barter Theatre, Virginia's State Theatre is located only one hour away in Abingdon, Virginia.

The Lonesome Pine Country Club has an 18 hole golf course, tennis courts, and a swimming pool. Most municipalities have public swimming, parks, tennis and other recreational facilities and programs.

The Bristol Motor Speedway is located less than an hour and a half drive of Wise. The nationally known track offers Speedway and Dragway racing, as well as Special Events.

Other leisure activities in the area include bowling, archery, softball, dance, yoga, tennis, karate, football, soccer, baseball, basketball, bike riding, boating, canoeing, rafting, horseback riding, camping, hiking, backpacking, rock climbing, and fitness centers.

Three shopping centers in the Wise-Norton area offer large discount department stores, theatres, restaurants, clothing stores, supermarkets, and numerous other specialty shops that provide for just about any shopping need. A variety of car dealerships and building supply stores are also available in the area. The Wise-Norton area has four chain motels (Days Inn, Holiday Inn, Best Western, and Super 8) and several locally operated motels are scattered throughout the county.

Contact: Jorge Hersel, District Ranger at e-mail: jorgehersel@fs.fed.us , phone (276) 328-2931 or Thresia Smith, Support Services Specialist at phone number (276) 328-2931.

**George Washington-Jefferson National Forest
Clinch Ranger District**

**OUTREACH NOTICE FORM
Biological Scientist, GS-401-11
(Please Respond by November 30, 2010)**

NAME: _____

INTERNET ADDRESS: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

AGENCY EMPLOYED WITH: _____ USFS _____ BLM _____ OTHER

TYPE OF APPOINTMENT: _____ PERMANENT _____ TEMPORARY _____ TERM
_____ VRA _____ PWD _____ OTHER

CURRENT REGION/FOREST/DISTRICT: _____

CURRENT SERIES AND GRADE: _____

CURRENT POSITION TITLE: _____

IF NOT A CURRENT PERMANENT (CAREER OR CAREER-CONDITIONAL) EMPLOYEE, ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO BE REHIRED UNDER ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL AUTHORITIES?

- _____ PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
- _____ VETERANS READJUSTMENT
- _____ DISABLED VETERANS WITH 30% COMPENSABLE DISABILITY
- _____ VETERANS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES ACT OF 1998
- _____ FORMER PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER
- _____ STUDENT CAREER EXPERIENCE PROGRAM
- _____ OTHER _____

Thank you for your interest in our vacancy!