

## OUTREACH NOTICE

### **Natural Resource Specialist (Wilderness Manager) GS-401-09, PFT**

#### **Middle Fork Ranger District Salmon-Challis National Forest R4, Intermountain Region**

This is a pre-announcement soliciting information we can use to determine the area of consideration, and your response will not be considered a commitment nor an application. Please respond by phone or email by COB March 21, 2013. Please discuss your current location and position/grade (if a current Government employee), knowledge, skills and abilities related to this position and point of contact including a phone number and email address.

The Salmon-Challis National Forest will soon be advertising a **Natural Resource Specialist (Wilderness Manager), GS-0401-09, PFT** position located on the Middle Fork Ranger District, in Challis, Idaho.

#### **The Position and Major Duties**

This position on the Salmon-Challis National Forest, located on the Middle Fork Ranger District, serves as the Wilderness Manager for the Middle Fork Ranger District portion of the Frank Church – River of No Return Wilderness (FC-RONR).

The Middle Fork Ranger District has management responsibility for the 104 mile long Middle Fork of the Salmon Wild & Scenic River and 848,312 acres of the 2.4 million acre Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness. The Frank is the largest contiguous Wilderness Area in the lower 48 states. There are 829 miles of Wilderness trails, serviced by 26 trailheads and 4 airstrips managed by the district.

Major duties: 1) Conducts surveys and studies of existing recreation (wilderness) use. 2) Recommends potential sites or areas for use or development. 3) Participates in the development, administration and execution of annual (wilderness) work plans. 4) Develops appropriate environmental documents for proposed wilderness, trails or other recreation resources. 5) Provides specific wilderness program input into the overall natural resources management planning process and coordinates with other natural resource disciplines. Incumbent serves as a Forest Protection Officer performing limited law enforcement duties to ensure compliance with Forest Service regulations. This position will supervise three WAE 13/13 employees. The position may require extended living periods at remote stations accessible only by foot, horseback, small aircraft or boat. These remote stations are very primitive with no electricity, telephone or television service.

## About the Area

**The City:** Challis, Idaho is located a mile high in the mountains of central Idaho. The city has a population of approximately 1,000 and is the seat of Custer County which has a population of 4,300. For more information about the area, log on to the website <http://challisidaho.com/ahome.html>.

**History:** The Challis area was originally home to the Shoshone-Bannock American Indians. In the 1820's, fur-trapping parties came in search for beaver pelts and other early settlers were traders, cattlemen and ranchers. In 1873 gold was discovered, unleashing a mining boom that spanned almost three decades. Although many of these mining camps eventually became ghost towns, Challis remained and continues to prosper from the rich mineral resources.

**Climate:** Challis enjoys a dry, warm climate during the summer and fall months with daily highs averaging between 75 to 95 degrees, and nightly lows from 45 to 60 degrees. The climate in winter is ideal for snow sports, the lowest temperatures averaging from 14 to 25 degrees with occasional sub-zero readings. Annual precipitation averages around 7 inches.

**Shopping and Services:** Challis has a variety of shops and services including: grocery stores, convenience stores, restaurants, pharmacies, florists, veterinarians, auto parts, ranch supplies, sporting goods stores, bars, hardware and lumber stores, video rentals, gas stations, and other businesses that specialize in antiques, jewelry, photo developing, clothing, furniture, artwork, appliances, and gifts. There is a full-service bank, a credit union, a Post Office, and a public library.

Media include the local weekly newspaper and two regional newspapers delivered daily. Cable TV is available in the city and many county residents use satellite receivers. Semi-local radio transmits from Salmon, Idaho, which includes Challis news. With an external antenna, several Southern Idaho FM radio stations can be received.

**Medical:** The Challis Area Health Center has x-ray and laboratory facilities, an emergency room, and Life-Flight capabilities. Additional medical services are provided by specialists who regularly visit the clinic. There is a physician assistant, two dentists, an optometrist, and two chiropractic doctors. The area has 24 hour 911 and Advanced EMT (Advanced Life Support) service. Several hospitals are located within 60 to 200 miles.

**Schools:** Present enrollment is about 400 students. Teacher/student ratios are 1:23 in the elementary school and 1:16 at the junior/senior high school. The school district is accredited and has a 2A rating for athletics. Extracurricular activities include interscholastic sports, music, and various interest activities such as an Academic Team, an Envirothon Team, and Frontier League sports. Each school has an up-to-date computer lab and there are computers in each classroom.

**Transportation:** There is a small airport with charter flights available. Three of the closest major airports are within 200 miles.

**Housing:** There are four motels in Challis and several bed and breakfast lodgings. Housing prices range from \$50,000 to over \$100,000. Several real estate offices are available. Mobile home parks provide additional accommodations. A fair selection of rental properties is usually available.

**Churches:** Challis has an active church community with several churches representing a variety of denominations.

**Recreation for Challis and Salmon Areas:** The Middle Fork of the Salmon River and Salmon River federally protected as Wild and Scenic Rivers are renowned for world class white-water rafting, kayaking, floating and jet boating. Outfitter and guide services are offered and both Challis and Salmon serve as gateways to the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness, encompassing 2.4 million acres, the largest contiguous wilderness in the United States outside of Alaska. The primitive mountain area provides spectacular and abundant hunting (white-tailed and mule deer, elk, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, bear, moose, and cougar). Many species of game birds and also waterfowl can be found. Fishing (trout and steelhead) is open virtually all year. Miles of groomed trails and routes are prepared for cross-country skiing and snowmobiling while down-hill skiing, ice fishing and other winter fun can be enjoyed nearby. Challis also is within 120 miles of the world-famed Sun Valley Ski Resort. Challis offers hiking and wilderness walks, camping and picnicking, rock hounding, prospecting, bird watching, photography, hot springs, back-country air tours, guest ranches, mining ghost towns and a museum.

### **About the Forest**

The Salmon-Challis National Forest covers over 4.3 million acres in east-central Idaho. The Forest is bordered by the Bitterroot Range of the North Central Rockies on the east, and to the west includes over 1.3 million acres of the Frank Church--River of No Return Wilderness. Rugged and remote, this country offers adventure, solitude and breathtaking scenery. The Forest also contains Mt. Borah, Idaho's tallest peak and the Wild & Scenic Salmon River and the Middle Fork of the Salmon River. The area is a highly desired destination for hunting, fishing, white-water rafting and the many other popular recreational pursuits. The Forest features diverse, rough topography, geologic conditions, often-severe weather conditions, and miles of streams with anadromous fish spawning habitat creating a highly complex land management situation. The Forest Office is located in Salmon, Idaho. There are currently six administrative units on the Forest: Lost River, Challis & Yankee Fork, Middle Fork, Salmon & Cobalt, North Fork and Leadore Ranger Districts.

**Contact:** John Haugh, Wilderness & Rivers Program Manager, Middle Fork Ranger District

**Telephone:** (208) 879-4106

**Internet:** [jhaugh@fs.fed.us](mailto:jhaugh@fs.fed.us)

**OUTREACH NOTICE FORM**

**Reply to John Haugh, By:**

**March 21, 2013**

**GS-401-09, PFT**

**Natural Resource Specialist (Wilderness Manager)**

**SALMON-CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST**

**Middle Fork Ranger District, Challis Idaho**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

IBM  
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 HIRED UNDER ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL  
AUTHORITIES:

- \_\_\_\_\_ PERSON WITH DISABILITIES
- \_\_\_\_\_ VETERANS READJUSTMENT
- \_\_\_\_\_ DISABLED VETERANS W/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!***