

OUTREACH ANNOUNCEMENT
USDA Forest Service
Ashley National Forest
Supervisor's Office

POSITION: Environmental Coordinator GS-401-12

LOCATION: USDA Forest Service, Ashley National Forest, Vernal, Utah

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

This position is a key part of the Planning and Data Management staff group. Duties include:

- Coordinating and/or reviewing project analyses for conformance with NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act), NFMA (National Forest Management Act) and other laws, regulations, policies, or procedures.
- Serving as the Forest appeals and litigation coordinator.
- Working with Forest leadership team, program area teams, and budget officer to align the out-year and annual program of work with Forest Plan direction, available resources, and funding.
- Helping project leaders design projects that are consistent with the Forest Plan and contribute to meeting management objectives
- Leading and/or coaching planning efforts to identify opportunities to achieve desired conditions and ensure consistency with the Forest plan.
- Managing Forest Plan amendment processes when needed
- Preparing annual monitoring reports and advising on project-level monitoring strategies
- Managing the Forest PALS database, mailing lists and planning web page

Candidates should have good knowledge of NEPA and NFMA, along with strong written and verbal communication skills.

Vacancy Announcement

A vacancy announcement will soon be posted on the U.S. Government's official website for employment opportunities at www.usajobs.gov. Those that wish to be considered for this position must apply to the vacancy announcement by the closing date noted on the announcement. Individuals who respond to this outreach effort will be sent notice of the vacancy announcement when it is posted. We expect a referral list for this position will be issued to the selecting official within one week of the closing date. All applicants who have applied to the announcement on or before the listed dates and are found to be qualified and in the quality group will be referred for consideration.

Note: an outreach notice for this position was originally circulated in August-September 2012. The vacancy announcement was delayed, but is now expected to appear on USAjobs in April 2013. The outreach is being re-circulated to alert potential candidates.

Outreach reply due date is: April 12, 2013

For Additional Information: Please contact Kathy Paulin, Recreation, Heritage and Planning Staff Officer at 435-781-5160 or kpaulin@fs.fed.us

The Ashley National Forest

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/ashley/>

The Ashley National Forest encompasses about a million and a half acres in northeastern Utah and southwestern Wyoming. The Forest lies in three geographical areas: the east-west range of the Uinta Mountains, the Green River Basin, and the Tavaputs Plateau. Elevations range from 6,000 feet to 13,528 feet.

Steep canyons, high mountain peaks, glaciated basins, large open meadows, and desert badlands produce a rich diversity of vegetation and wildlife. The grasses and shrubs of the high mountain desert are replaced by pinyon and juniper as the elevation rises. In mid-elevation areas, aspen dominates and becomes mixed with conifer. Higher up, the vegetation changes to conifer forest composed of ponderosa pine, lodgepole pine, fir, and spruce. Wildlife is abundant. Larger species include black bear, mountain lion, moose, elk, mule deer, pronghorn, mountain goats, and bighorn sheep.

Neighboring lands include the Uinta and Ouray Indian Reservation to the south, the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest to the west and north, and a mixture of Bureau of Land Management, State of Utah, and private lands to the east and southeast. Compared with other National Forests, relatively few small tracts of private land lie within the Ashley's boundary.

The High Uintas Wilderness, established by Congress in 1984, comprises nearly one-half million acres in the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache and Ashley National Forests. Within the wilderness, elevations range from 8,000 feet to 13,582 feet at the top of Kings Peak, the highest mountain in Utah. The Uinta Mountain range runs east to west, from the Wasatch Mountains into Colorado. Pre-Cambrian rock formed from sediments laid down 600 million years ago makes up the core of the range. Glacial activity carved deep canyons and left a spectacular landscape of rolling, treeless peaks and stratified ridges interspersed with broad meadows and numerous lakes.

The Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area lies in the northeast part of the Forest. Flaming Gorge Reservoir extends almost 90 miles into Wyoming, and offers outstanding fishing and boating opportunities. Record-breaking German brown trout and large lake and rainbow trout have been taken from its waters. The Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area has three marinas and many campgrounds, some of which are open year-round.

The Green River below Flaming Gorge Dam is a world-famous blue-ribbon trout stream. The Little Hole National Recreation Trail parallels the river 7.3 miles from the Dam to the Little Hole Recreation Complex.

About Vernal, Utah

Vernal is situated in northeast Utah south of Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area and west of Dinosaur National Monument, and is the county seat of Uintah County. Vernal has a population of approximately 9,000 people. When combined with the residents of surrounding

communities, the population of the Ashley Valley is approximately 15,000. Vernal is 180 miles east of Salt Lake City and 300 miles west of Denver.

<http://www.vernalchamber.com/>

<http://www.city-data.com/city/Vernal-Utah.html>

Climate

Vernal sits at approximately 5,000 feet above sea level. Vernal enjoys four beautiful temperate seasons; the climate is semi-arid with low humidity. Annual precipitation averages 15-20", mostly in the form of winter snow and spring/fall rain. Winter temperatures usually hover in the 20s-30s during the day, but will occasionally drop to sub-zero. Mid-summer temperatures can reach 100 degrees, but generally average in the low-mid 90s, dipping into the 50s at night.

Schools

Vernal has six elementary schools, one middle school, one junior high, one high school, and a private Christian school. The Uintah District Learning Center provides education opportunities for children with special needs. Child day-care centers and preschools are also available.

Utah State University-Uintah Basin (with branch campuses in Vernal and Roosevelt) employs about 25 resident faculty and offers 2 Associates Degrees, 23 Bachelor's Degrees, 12 Masters Degrees, and 1 doctorate degree. Uintah Basin Applied Technology College offers Certificates of Competency for technical entry-level work.

Health Care

The Ashley Valley Regional Medical Center is a 39-bed acute care facility with an emergency room and trauma care facility with 34 affiliated physicians. Specialties include family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, radiology, pathology, orthopedics, ENT, general surgery, urology, OB/GYN, podiatry, ophthalmology and physiatry. Physicians from Salt Lake City also provide specialized, part-time services in the area. Major hospitals are located in Salt Lake City and Provo. The community also has several dentists, two optometrists, and five chiropractors. A variety of mental health professionals have practices in the community.

For extended medical care, Uintah Care Center is a 50-bed nursing home, with additional facilities to provide outpatient care on a daily basis.

Three veterinary clinics provide care for both large and small animals.

Housing

The average apartment rental is around \$750.00 to \$900.00 a month. Rental homes are not readily available. Average purchase price for a basic three-bedroom home ranges from \$185,000 to \$290,000. Government housing is not available.

Economic Base

Oil and gas exploration and production, along with oil shale, tar sands, gilsonite, and phosphate, are the major components of the local economy. Tourism is also a growing industry. Several government offices are located in Vernal and include the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Farmers Home Administration, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and city, county, and state offices.

Recreation Opportunities

Vernal has parks, a bowling alley, movie theaters, a water slide, and an 18-hole golf course. Tennis courts, baseball and softball fields are also available. In addition, the Uintah Community Center offers an array of recreational opportunities for all ages including indoor lap pool, indoor leisure pool with slides and water toys, a climbing wall, two full-size gyms, indoor running track, cardio balcony, an aerobic dance area, a strength area, on-site child care, three party rooms, classrooms, a public meeting area, and conference rooms.

Basketball, volleyball, and baseball leagues are available for adults. Locally sponsored children's' activities include Little League football, baseball, basketball, soccer, wrestling and a swim team. The Uintah Recreation District also sponsors several "fun runs" and a triathlon (the Dino-Tri) each year.

Several nearby rivers and lakes offer excellent fishing and boating opportunities, and white-water raft trips are available through local guides. Mountain biking is a popular activity and there is a growing network of biking trails on public lands. Cross-country skiing, snowmobiling and ice fishing are popular winter sports.

Vernal has several dance schools instructing ballet, jazz, clogging, and tap. Gymnastic classes for children are also available.

Civic and Service Organizations

Active community and service clubs in Vernal include the Vernal Area Chamber of Commerce, Lions, Elks, Toastmasters, Rotary, Boy Scouts, 4-H, Masonic Lodge, Search and Rescue, Cultural Arts, and American Legion, to name a few. The Utah Field House of Natural History is a state park facility located in downtown Vernal, and is a popular destination for tourists and area residents alike. The Golden Age Senior Center provides activities, luncheons, transportation, and dances for area senior citizens.

A new, 30,000 square foot county library was recently completed and features a children's library, teen library, community room, public use computers, two small group study rooms, library classroom, and a reading area with a fireplace, study tables, and comfortable chairs.

Churches

A wide range of religious services are available in the area.

Cultural Events

Several cultural events occur throughout the year, including the annual Outlaw Trail Festival, Festival of the Arts, Uintah County Fair, Dinosaur Roundup Rodeo, Dinosaur Days, Dino-Soar Hot Air Balloon Festival, a fall story-telling festival, and the annual Christmas Fair. The Uintah Arts Council sponsors several musical and other cultural events.

Vernal also hosts a small Farmer's Market every Saturday from July through September. In addition to fresh fruit and other produce, a variety of crafts, locally produced meats, and artwork is offered for sale.

OUTREACH RESPONSE FORM

I am interested in this position on the Ashley National Forest, Vernal, Utah.
Position Title/Series/Grade: **Environmental Coordinator, GS-401-12**

Please reply by April 12, 2013

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email address: _____

Are you currently a Federal employee? Yes _____ No _____

If YES, CURRENT REGION/FOREST/DISTRICT: _____

CURRENT SERIES AND GRADE: _____

CURRENT POSITION TITLE: _____

YEARS AND TYPE OF NEPA EXPERIENCE: _____

AGENCY EMPLOYED WITH: _____ USFS _____ BLM _____ OTHER: _____

TYPE OF APPOINTMENT: _____ PERMANENT _____ TEMPORARY _____ TERM
_____ VRA _____ PWD _____ 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 READJUSTMENT
- _____ DISABLED VETERANS W/30% COMPENSABLE DISABILITY
- _____ VETERANS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES ACT OF 1998
- _____ FORMER PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER
- _____ STUDENT CAREER EXPERIENCE PROGRAM
- _____ OTHER _____

Please return the Outreach form to Kathy Paulin, Recreation, Heritage and Planning Staff Officer,
kpaulin@fs.fed.us