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## **WG-5716-05 Engineering Equipment Operator Helper**



**North Zone Fire Management, North Kaibab Ranger District, Kaibab National Forest  
Announcement # 13-110307-2359-DT-KP**

**Applications are due April 8, 2013**

**Apply online at [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov)**

**Select Jacob Lake, AZ as Preferred Location**

The North Kaibab Ranger District is seeking a diverse and qualified applicant pool for the WG-5716-05 Engineering Equipment Operator Helper. This is a seasonal position (not to exceed six months). The North Zone Fire Management program is responsible for initial attack responsibilities on the Kaibab National Forest and the North Rim of the Grand Canyon National Park, as well as cooperation with the adjoining agencies. This position requires the selectee to obtain or possess a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) and therefore, is a Testing Designated Position (TDP) under the Department of Transportation (DOT)/Forest Service Alcohol and Controlled Substance Testing Program. Assists journeyman equipment operator in equipment operation and operates equipment under close supervision. Supports journeyman engineering equipment operators in operating heavy equipment, such as large industrial tractors, loaders, backhoes, graders, dump trucks, and soil compactors. Services and performs operator maintenance on equipment being performed. Receives training and learns the common and typical duties associated with operating heavy engineering equipment. Learns to operate controls and adjust equipment attachments. Performs maintenance and makes minor repairs and adjustments to equipment operated. Reports major mechanical problems to supervisor. Assists engineering operator in maintaining equipment for emergency use in fire suppression. Incumbent ensures that work is performed safely and efficiently in accordance with established standards. Receives and follows detailed instructions for new or difficult assignments. Under close supervision, performs service and operator maintenance on equipment being operated. General Labor Tasks Performs manual tasks that require prior work experience or training and some degree of manual skill and very heavy physical effort, such as installation of culverts or drainage structures, installation of water sources and associated pipelines, and water capture and storage structures. Assignments may also include repairing various types of equipment, such as house or equipment trailers. Performs other duties as assigned. Performs wildfire suppression support as directed within training and physical capabilities. Position assists Fire Management with prescribed fire and fuels reduction projects as needed.

## **NORTH ZONE FIRE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION:**

The North Kaibab Ranger District on the Kaibab National Forest has a unique remote area uncommon to other Forests in the Southwest Region. The district office is located in Fredonia, AZ and is the Duty Station location for many permanent employees. During the summer field season the North Zone Fire Management resources (North Kaibab Ranger District and North Rim of Grand Canyon) are dispatched out of three field work stations (Big Springs, Jacob Lake and North Rim developed area). The purpose for these field stations is for quicker response time to Wildland/RX fire activities. These stations logistically support fire resources that are assigned to these sites and provide seasonal crew housing for employees that are stationed at those locations. Other district/park functions operate out of these remote field stations, as well. The district's fire/fuels management program includes managed fire for multiple objectives and prescribed fire (treating 5,000 to 10,000 acres annually) activities. There is limited but significant wildland-urban interface on the Kaibab Plateau along the major travel routes to Grand Canyon National Park. Fire season generally occurs from mid-May through early to mid-July, with most fires caused by lightning.

The position that we are filling will be stationed at Jacob Lake field station. This station also has one type 3 engine, one type 6 engine, a dozer and a water-tender. Big Springs field station has one type 3 engine and one type engine. The North Rim has one type 6 and a fire effects crew.

## **KAIBAB NATIONAL FOREST:**

The Kaibab National Forest is part of the largest contiguous ponderosa pine forest in North America. The forest consists of three districts totaling 1.6 million acres that border both the north and south rims of the Grand Canyon. Wildlife is abundant and includes elk, deer, pronghorn antelope, turkey, coyote, black bear and mountain lion. Spanning from north-central Arizona to the Utah border, the Kaibab National Forest offers breathtaking views, unusual geologic formations, diverse recreation and more.

Vegetation varies by elevation. The lowest point on the forest is 3,500 feet in the southwest corner and the highest is 10,418 feet at the summit of Kendrick Peak. Near desert-like conditions exist at the lower canyon elevations, changing to pinyon-juniper woodlands, the ponderosa pine belt and mixed conifer forests of pine, spruce and aspen as the elevation rises.

## **NORTH KAIBAB RANGER DISTRICT**

The North Kaibab Ranger District program areas include forest and rangeland vegetation management, fire/fuels, wildlife, recreation, wilderness and heritage resource management. The district is home to the largest number of northern goshawks in the lower 48 states, a bison herd, California condors, the Kaibab squirrel and a renowned mule deer population, among other wildlife. Key recreation areas on the district include Saddle Mountain and Kanab Creek Wildernesses, the 18-mile Rainbow Rim Trail along the edge of Grand Canyon, and the Great Western and Arizona Trails. The district has an unusually high number of archaeological sites, pictographs and petroglyphs from a human presence around the Kaibab Plateau

*dating back at least 10,000 years. Given the close proximity of many indigenous populations, the heritage program is constantly engaged in locating, protecting and studying the historical resources of the area.*

## **THE LOCAL COMMUNITY**

The area is rural in character with full-service communities nearby. The North Kaibab Ranger Station is located in Fredonia, Arizona. Fredonia's population is approximately 1,500, with K-12 schools, a post office, churches, several small motels, gas stations and in some years a restaurant. Kanab, Utah, seven miles north of Fredonia, has approximately 5,000 residents. It offers K-12 schools, a post office, two grocery stores, several motels and restaurants, a nine-hole golf course, a movie theatre, a playhouse, a hospital, a number of churches, miscellaneous retail stores, and a community chorus and orchestra. Larger communities such as Page, Arizona (90 miles east) and St. George, Utah (80 miles west) offer additional shopping, larger medical facilities, malls and commercial airports for smaller aircraft. Federal land management agencies and Native American tribes play a prominent role in the area. The district is bordered by Grand Canyon National Park to the south, Vermilion Cliffs National Monument (BLM) to the east, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (BLM) and Zion National Park to the north, and the Arizona Strip (BLM) to the west. The Kaibab Band of Paiutes reservation is located just west of Fredonia. Climate depends on elevation. Summers are generally sunny and hot, ranging from average highs of 90 to 100 degrees in Fredonia, Kanab and the lower red rock elevations, to a delightful 70 to 80 degrees in the higher elevations of the forest. The southwestern monsoon season delivers summer thunderstorms and rain from early July through early September. Winters are mild at the lower elevations (4700 feet) in our communities, with highs in the 30s and 40s, and lows in the teens and 20s. Higher elevations on the forest often see four or more feet of snow. Permanent Government housing is not available. Seasonally, government housing may be available at the Jacob Lake worksites. Rental houses and apartments are available in Fredonia and Kanab ranging from \$500 to \$1,000/month.

<http://kanab.utah.gov/>

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

If you would like more information about the Forestry Technician, Prevention/Patrol position, please contact the Assistant Fire Management Officer, Dave Gesser at (928) 643-8151 or [dgesser@fs.fed.us](mailto:dgesser@fs.fed.us).