

## Forest Aviation Officer GS-2101-11

### **POSITION TO BE ADVERTISED**

The Mark Twain National Forest (USDA – Forest Service) is advertising to fill a Forest Aviation Officer position within our Fire and Aviation Management organization. This position will be located in Rolla, MO at the Mark Twain National Forest Supervisor’s Office. The incumbent will report to the Forest Fire Management Officer and will be responsible for managing all aviation operations on the Mark Twain National Forest. The position may also be delegated FAO responsibilities on several other southern tier National Forests within the Eastern Region. This is a permanent full-time position with a target grade of GS-11.

### **DUTIES**

The primary responsibility of the position is to oversee fire preparedness, suppression activities, aerial ignition, and other aviation needs on the Mark Twain National Forest; and to provide supervision of the Mark Twain National Forest Helitack crew. This position oversees the Aviation Program for the Mark Twain National Forest which includes a Type 3 Exclusive Use Helicopter contract, Call When Needed Fixed Wing and Rotary Aircraft, Law Enforcement aviation needs, and coordination with the National Park Service, Ozark National Scenic Riverways, Missouri Department of Conservation, and DOD Fort Leonard Wood aviation programs. The position also provides aviation expertise and oversight to other Forests/Prairies within Region 9 as delegated. The position serves as a Level 3 Aviation COR on exclusive use and Call When Needed (CWN) light fixed wing or helicopter contracts.

Other duties include:

- Coordinate with Interagency partners in all aspects of aviation management.
- Ensure best cost and efficient use of aircraft resources when aviation assets are assigned.
- Provide oversight and aviation resource coordination/prioritization with the aircraft dispatchers at Missouri-Iowa Coordination Center and Eastern Area Coordination Center.
- Process Aviation Business System invoices and packages for payment for Forest contracts.
- Address performance and capability issues with pilots and aircraft as needed.
- Produce annual Forest Aviation Plan.
- Complete project aviation safety plans for all non-fire aviation activities on the Forest.
- Review and approve aerial ignition prescribed fire plans.
- Coordinate prescribed fire aerial ignition operations and staffing on the Forest and neighboring units.
- Ensure an effective SMS is in place on the Forest and that all aviation and ground resources appropriately apply actions to support the four pillars.
- Review all SAFECOMS on the Forest and document remedies.
- Coordinate annual aerial ignition refresher and helicopter manager workshops.
- Coordinate Aerial Observer training and annual refresher.

## **QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Those who are interested must meet the qualification requirements for the GS-2101 series. The OPM Qualification Standards Handbook Manual is available for review at any Federal Government Personnel Office or on the Internet at <http://www.opm.gov/qualifications.asp>. Applicant must have one year of specialized experience at the next lower level. Specialized experience is that which has equipped the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform successfully the duties of the position that is typically in or related to the work of the position to be filled.

Ninety (90) days of experience as a primary/rigorous firefighter or equivalent experience outside federal employment is a basic qualification requirement for this position.

## **HOW TO APPLY**

The vacancy announcement for this position will be posted on the U.S. Government's official website for employment opportunities at, [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov) sometime after January 10, 2014. Applicants need to indicate Rolla, MO as their preferred geographic location in order to be considered for this position.

Those that wish to be considered for this position must apply to the vacancy announcement by Monday, February 3, 2014. The Referral List for this position will be issued to the selecting official on or about February 14, 2014. All applicants who have applied to the announcement and are found to be qualified and in the quality group will be referred for consideration.

This position is being advertised concurrently with the recruit/fill announcement.

## **ADDITIONAL CONTACTS**

If you are interested in knowing more about this position contact Jody Eberly at 573-341-7493, or e-mail [jeberly@fs.fed.us](mailto:jeberly@fs.fed.us). Interested applicants please complete the enclosed Outreach Response form and return to the address listed on the form.

## **DUTY STATION**

Mark Twain National Forest Supervisor's Office is located at 401 Fairgrounds Road, Rolla, MO 65401.

The [Mark Twain National Forest](#) is made up of six ranger districts, mainly located in the southern third of the state. The Forest Supervisor's Office is located in Rolla, Missouri. The Mark Twain NF contains approximately 1.5 million acres, comprised mainly of upland hardwoods and some associated shortleaf pine. A full range of vegetation and recreation management activities on the forest include timber harvest and regeneration activities, TSI, prescribed fire, developed and dispersed recreation, and mining.

## **ABOUT THE MTNF FIRE PROGRAM**

The Mark Twain National Forest experiences between 150-300 wildfires annually, burning 2000 to 12,000 acres. There are two fire seasons, spring (Feb 15 – May 10) and fall (Oct 10 – Dec 10). Both overlap prescribed burning season. Primary fuels are leaf litter and pine needles. The Forest has an active hazardous fuels and ecological improvement prescribed burning program of approximately 30,000 acres per year using both hand and aerial ignition methods. Additional hazardous fuel projects are accomplished through mechanical methods. A large portion of the Forest consists of checkerboard property ownership with numerous areas having a growing urban interface to the Forest.

The Forest hosts the Missouri-Iowa Interagency Coordination Center (MOCC) which moves resources

from federal and state agencies in Missouri and Iowa to incidents around the country. We typically mobilize 10 or more Type II IA Crews and over 100 single resources per year. The AFMO serves as the Center Manager and supervises the Dispatch staff. We also work with the Mingo Job Corps to train and utilize their students in fuels management activities and wildfire suppression, and have an agreement with Americorps St. Louis to provide additional firefighters for both suppression and prescribed burning on the Forest.

All fire dispatching for the Forest is centralized from MOCC. There is a Center Manager (Forest AFMO), an Assistant Center Manager who also functions as an IA and Expanded Dispatcher, and two IA/Expanded Dispatchers. MOCC also hosts a Dispatcher funded jointly by the National Park Service, USDI Fish & Wildlife Service, and Forest Service.

The Forest is divided into three fire management zones. Each zone has a Zone FMO and two Zone AFMO's – one Operations Specialist and one Fuels Specialist. Each zone also has four 13/13 firefighters, and seasonal firefighters when budgets allow.

The Forest is rated as High Complexity, primarily due to the aviation component. We host an Interagency Type 3 Exclusive Use Helicopter from February 15 – April 20 annually. In addition to fire positions, the Forest has an active and skilled militia which contribute greatly to the fire program. Training needs for the Forest are commensurate with the large number of people who participate in fire.

Natural disasters and human-caused events requiring emergency response and activation of Incident Command teams are fairly frequent, including floods, wind events, ice storms, train wrecks, search & rescue, etc. We work with three National Weather Service Offices, the National Park Service, Missouri Department of Conservation, Missouri Department of Natural Resources and numerous RFD/VFDs in our daily operations.

### **ABOUT THE COMMUNITY**

Rolla's population is approximately 16,367, and its elevation is 1,140 feet above sea level. Rolla is located in central Missouri off Interstate 44, Mo. Hwy. 63 and 72. The average annual temperature is 55.7 degrees, average rainfall 37.45 inches and snowfall of 11.7 inches. It is situated within 1 ½ - 2 hr. drive of three major cities (St. Louis to the east, Springfield to the west and Jefferson City/Columbia to the north).

*Government:* Rolla is a Third Class City under Missouri Statutes with a Mayor-City Council form of government with a full-time City Administrator. Electricity within the city limits is supplied by the Rolla Municipal Utilities. City fire and police departments are equipped with the most modern equipment available and is staffed with full-time personnel. <http://rollacity.org/>

*Economic Background:* The Rolla area has a diversified economic base comprised of industry, governmental agencies, educational facilities, medical services and some agricultural activity. In addition, Rolla is considered to be a regional trade center serving a population of over 190,000 people. There are over 1000 businesses in the Rolla area, including the Missouri University of Science and Technology (MS&T)(formerly University of Missouri-Rolla) and the Rolla Technical Institute.

*Housing:* The median value of existing homes in the Rolla area is approximately \$75,400, with the majority of new home construction costs ranging from \$100,000 to \$200,000, with a median monthly house payment of \$507.00 (not always including insurance and taxes). The median monthly rental for a two bedroom apartment is \$425. There are several realtors available specializing in housing of various price ranges within specific areas. Apartments, duplexes, and fourplexes are available with prices depending on facilities and location. Rooms are available for rent in local hotels and motels.

Government Quarters: None available

Fuels: Coal, electricity, natural gas, propane fuel oil and wood.

Taxation: Personal income tax ranges is \$5.01 per \$100 assessed valuation. County sales tax is .005%, City sales tax is .02% and State sales tax is .04225%. Prescription drugs are exempt from sales tax.

Transportation: Bus service is provided by Greyhound and USA Tours. Locally owned cab companies provide public transportation. Rail freight is provided by the main line of Burlington/Northern Railroad. Rolla National Airport is located 12 miles north on Hwy. 63. A private airport, Rolla Downtown Airport, is located two miles west of Rolla. Major commercial airlines are located in St. Louis and Springfield. Major highways include Interstate 44, and US Highways 63 & 72.

Television: Cable and pay TV with 51 channels are available.

Radio: Six radio station including [Public Radio KMST](#) .

Newspaper: [Rolla Daily News](#) circulates 7,000 daily and Sunday papers, serving much of surrounding counties.

Schools: The public school system [Rolla Public School District Website Homepage](#) (rated AAA) consists of one senior high, one junior high (8-9) and one middle school (5-6-7) and three elementary schools enrolling 4,090 students. There are five parochial schools with an enrollment of over 359 students. B.W. Robinson State School, Choices for People, the Kyle Center and Gingerbread House serve people with disabilities.

Colleges: Rolla is the home of the [Missouri University of Science and Technology](#) (MST), a premier school which focuses on educating tomorrow's leaders in engineering and science with a student population of approximately 5,000. MST offers degrees in the fields of engineering, science, social sciences and humanities. Graduate programs leading to Master's and PhD degrees are also offered.

[Columbia College of Missouri](#) and [Drury University](#)

Vocational-Technical Schools: Rolla Technical Institute, one of the most modern in the Midwest, provides an extensive and comprehensive technical vocational training program to students from 12 area high schools as well as evening training and customized training for over 900 workers. Metro Business College, Columbia College and Drury College offer professional training and degrees in several fields. Webster University offers several graduate studies programs locally.

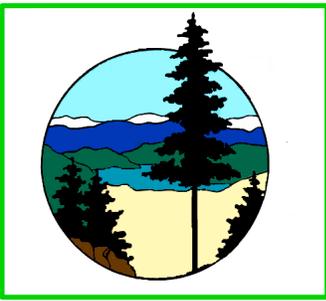
Churches/Civic Organizations: Our beautiful churches represent every denomination and are dedicated to serve our many citizens and welcome visitors. An active Chamber of Commerce along with organizations such as Lions, Optimist, Kiwanis, Rotary and Jaycees as well as the usual lodges, fraternal orders, federated local clubs of interest to all ages keep the citizens involved. Cultural activities are varied. University and local amateur theater groups, art shows and community concert programs receive much interest and support.

Health Care: Phelps County Regional Medical Center is a 240-bed regional referral center serving south central Missouri. An \$18 million expansion project completed in 1993 updated the entire hospital campus. Medical staff includes more than 110 physicians and dentists. The hospital has a high-risk maternity center and a Level III Trauma Center that sees more than 23,000 patients each year. The medical center employs more than 800 full- and part-time employees, and is the area's second largest

employer. Rolla has three veterinary offices available to take care of your pet's medical needs.

*Cultural Interests:* [Rolla Public Library](#) is one of the finest in the state with almost 60,000 volumes and offers many various services. [The Curtis Laws Wilson Library](#) -- Missouri University of Science & Technology is also accessible to the general public.

*Recreation:* Rolla Parks and Recreation Department provides supervised playground programs throughout the year. The Splash Zone (modern, shallow water-based play facility) with fountains, a lazy river, and water slides is located at one of Rolla's park locations. [The Centre](#) is the city's recreational facility with an indoor pool, basketball/volleyball courts, and a fitness room. Classes and programs are available throughout the year for members and the public. Two parks have stocked lakes for fishing and all have lighted ball diamonds and tennis courts as well as picnic pavilions and fireplaces. One public park provided by the Lion's Club is 240 acres with a fishing lake, picnic grounds, ball and soccer fields, equestrian trails and a club den available to the public. There is a University golf course and a private country club. There are two local health center facilities with racquetball courts, cardiovascular equipment, aerobics, tanning beds and massage therapists available. The Rolla Optimists sponsor kid's soccer and basketball programs. There are also recreational and competitive soccer, baseball, and basketball programs for area youth.



**OUTREACH RESPONSE FORM**  
Mark Twain National Forest  
Rolla, MO

*"Caring for the Land and Serving People"*



If you are interested in this position, please complete this form and send:

**E-mail** to: Jody Eberly ([jeberly@fs.fed.us](mailto:jeberly@fs.fed.us))

**Mail** to: USDA Forest Service, Mark Twain National Forest, ATTN: Jody Eberly, 401 Fairgrounds Road, Rolla, MO 65401, or

**FAX** to: 573-426-6800, ATTN: Jody Eberly.

**Forest Aviation Officer**

Location: *Eastern Region, Region 9, Mark Twain National Forest*

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail Address** \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently a Federal employee? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent? \_\_\_\_\_ Temporary? \_\_\_\_\_ TERM? \_\_\_\_\_ VRA? \_\_\_\_\_ PWD? \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER? \_\_\_\_\_

Current Title/Series/Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Employed with and location: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your interest!