



*Hoosier National Forest*  
**OUTREACH NOTICE**  
*FY 25 PERM Phase 1*  
**Bedford and Tell City, IN**



The Hoosier National Forest will soon be filling multiple vacancies for permanent full-time fire positions. Duty stations are located at the Hoosier National Forest Supervisor’s Office in Bedford, IN and the Tell City Ranger District Office in Tell City, IN. For additional details regarding each position, please contact the respective individual associated with the position for which you are interested in. Once advertised, applicants will need to apply through USA JOBS and select Bedford and/or Tell City, Indiana as the desired duty location. Unfortunately, government housing is not available.

Position Particulars:

Based on the applicant pool, we will fill 1 position on each of our type 6 engines. 1 in Bedford and 1 in Tell City. The positions will be open in USA JOBS **August 22<sup>nd</sup>-September 23<sup>rd</sup>**.

<b>Position</b>	<b>Duty Location</b>	<b>USAJobs Announcement #</b>	<b>Point Of Contact</b>
GS 6/7 FEO Permanent Full Time	Bedford, IN	TBD, will be sent to those who express interest through an outreach response.	Paul Fountain 812-583-5391 Paul.fountain@usda.gov
GS 4/5 Senior FF Permanent Full Time	Tell City, IN	TBD, will be sent to those who express interest through an outreach response	Ryan Otto 812.608.0488 Ryan.otto@usda.gov

Positions are being filled in one of two ways:

1. PERM Phase 1 centralized hiring event: **Vacancy announcements will be open from August 22 through September 23** on USAJOBS (<https://www.usajobs.gov/>). See above for the appropriate vacancy announcement(s) to search and select. This hiring event utilizes direct hire authority. Please complete the attached Outreach Response Form and return it to the respective contact listed above so that we know how to look for your application. After applying, individuals are highly encouraged to monitor their listed email and phone/voicemail as questions regarding preference in duty locations and other particulars will be queried. Phone inquiries can come from any area code associated within the United States.
2. Veterans Recruitment Appointment (VRA) can also be used to fill any the above positions. If eligible for VRA (see <https://www.usajobs.gov/help/working-in-government/unique-hiring-paths/veterans/vra/>) the applicant can avoid the USAJOBS application process. Furthermore, if filled using this method the start date could be sooner. If eligible for VRA and qualified for one of the listed positions, please reach out directly to the contact listed above for specifics. Documentation of veteran status (e.g. DD-214) and a resume are required.

### **Description of the Forest:**

The Hoosier National Forest encompasses over 204,000 acres in South Central Indiana stretching south from Bloomington to the Ohio River and is located within a drive of two hours or less from Cincinnati, Ohio; Evansville and Indianapolis, Indiana; and Louisville, Kentucky. Two ranger districts include the Brownstown District in Bedford, Indiana and the Tell City District in Tell City, Indiana.

The Hoosier National Forest sits in the unglaciated hills of Southern Indiana. The Forest provides a range of opportunities and resources for people to enjoy. Many recreation opportunities include camping, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, mountain bike riding, and viewing scenery. The only congressionally designated wilderness in Indiana, the 13,000-acre Charles C. Deam Wilderness provides opportunities for users desiring higher levels of solitude. In addition, the Forest has over 265 miles of trails for hiking, biking, or horseback riding.

The Hoosier works to provide integrated resource management on the complex mosaic that makes up National Forest System Lands in Indiana. Only 31% of the land within the Forest Boundary is National Forest System land, this scattered ownership pattern adds a complexity to the management of this valued natural resource. Forest managers are responsible for the protection of some unique resources. The Hoosier is in an area rich in caves and karst features. These underground features are largely unknown to most Forest visitors but are home to many species that are specific to these habitats. The Hoosier has five endangered or threatened species: the fanshell and rough pigtoe mussels reside in rivers to the south; the gray, Indiana and northern long-eared bats and their habitat occur throughout the Forest. The wildlife program on the Forest focuses on management to provide habitat for these species as well as many others that occur throughout the area.

The Forest works to maintain and restore sustainable ecosystems. The vegetation management on the forest focuses on promoting native oak and hickory regeneration, reducing nonnative pine planted to restore over farmed lands, and reducing nonnative invasive plant and animal species.

**Additional information about the Forest may be found at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/hoosier>.**

### **Bedford, IN.**

The Hoosier National Forest Supervisor's Office is co-located within the Brownstown Ranger District in Bedford, Indiana. Bedford is a full-service community of approximately 14,000 residents. Bedford has excellent schools, outstanding shopping, cultural amenities, and small-town atmosphere. Bedford is in the Eastern Time zone and features a broad-based economy. Major area employers include GM Powertrain, Indiana Limestone, and Stone City Products. Bedford is known as the "Limestone Capital of the World" because of the abundance and quality of the limestone which has been used on many landmark buildings in the U.S., including the Empire State Building and the Pentagon.

Bedford has several elementary schools, one junior high school, one high school (includes area vocational school) and Bedford City College, which offers adult education and college credit courses. Eighteen miles north of Bedford is Bloomington, home of Indiana University. In addition, Bedford is within commuting distance of six degree granting institutions. Indianapolis is approximately 70 miles north and is the state capital. Housing prices, for purchase or rent, are reasonable and affordable. Local services include a wide variety of places of worship, a library, two hospitals providing comprehensive medical services, and a variety of banking, shopping facilities, and restaurants.

### **Tell City, IN.**

The Hoosier National Forest Tell City Ranger District Office is in Tell City and Perry County. Tell City is located on the banks of the Ohio River and was founded in 1858 by the Swiss Colonization Society for Swiss and German immigrants. Settlement occurred early due to the city's proximity to the Ohio River. Community development was directly related to river travel. The city recognizes its Swiss and German heritage each August at the annual Schweizer Fest. Perry County has a population of approximately 18,900 people, with an estimated 7,500 in Tell City. The area observes the central time zone.

Major industries in the area include lumbering, manufacturing, and farming, additional area employers include ThyssenKrupp Waupaca, Mulzer Crushed Stone, Accent Marketing Services, ATTC Manufacturing, and Branchville Correctional Facility.

Perry County has 3 public elementary schools (1 in Tell City); 3 junior –senior high schools (7-12) (1 in Tell City). In addition, there are two private schools located in the county. Perry County also boasts a state community college campus (Ivy Tech). Perry County Hospital is located between the communities of Tell City and Cannelton. Housing in Perry County is very affordable. Median home values in Tell City are around \$87,000.

Perry County's rolling hills along the Ohio River provide amazing views of natural beauty, the area is well suited to outdoor recreation pursuits. Several boat ramps on the Ohio River provide access for boating and fishing. Five man-made lakes in Perry County offer water-based recreation opportunities.

### **Climate:**

The temperature in southern Indiana varies north to south. Although Indiana sometimes has temperatures below zero during the winter, the average temperatures in January range between 17°F and 35°F. Rainfall is distributed evenly throughout the year. The average annual precipitation statewide is 40 in, ranging from about 35 in (89 cm) near Lake Michigan to 45 inches along the Ohio River; from, 1981 - 2010, Indianapolis had an average of 42 inches annually. The annual snowfall averages about 26 inches.

### **Places of Worship:**

Churches representing all major denominations; as well as Jewish, Islamic, Buddhist and other places of worship; can be found in communities across the area.

### **Economy:**

Real estate in the area is moderately priced, as are utilities. Tourism is a developing economic force in the area. In recent years, several wineries and craft breweries have opened, adding to the tourism opportunities in the region.

### **Healthcare:**

Healthcare facilities serving the area include full facility IU Health Bedford Hospital and St. Vincent Dunn Hospital, in Bedford, along with full-service hospitals and medical practices in Bloomington. Services at these hospitals include cardiac units, oncology, and neonatal units. Other hospitals providing care in the general area of the

Hoosier include Perry County Memorial in Tell City, Indiana; Deaconess in Evansville, Indiana; and University of Louisville Hospital in Louisville, Kentucky. All the hospitals provide 24-hour emergency room, physician coverage and specialists.



### **Recreational and Cultural Activities:**

The region has many opportunities for outdoor activities as well as small town festivals and fairs. In addition, there is easy access to larger cities including Cincinnati, Ohio; Chicago, Illinois; Indianapolis, Indiana; Louisville, Kentucky; Nashville, Tennessee; and St. Louis, Missouri.

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### ***Non-Discrimination Statement***

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Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

Please complete your response by **September 23rd**. Responses may be sent via email only. Send via e-mail to the respective contact listed above. If you are unable to print/scan or complete digitally please include the requested information in your email.

**Positions Applying For (from List Above):** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

**Red Card Qualifications, if any:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you qualify for Veterans Recruitment Appointment (VRA)?**    Yes        No

**Are you a current or former Federal Employee?**    Yes                No

**If YES, most recent agency/region/unit:** \_\_\_\_\_

- **Series and grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

- **Position title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**How did you learn of this opportunity?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for your interest in this position.**