



2027 Seasonal Wildland Firefighter Hiring Announcement



US Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Geographic Area Rio Grande National Forest

PHASE 3: TEMP/Seasonal

1039 Firehire Positions

Application Period 10/30/2026 – 11/12/2026

Selections are expected to start on 12/15/2026

The Rio Grande National Forest is excited to announce several upcoming job opportunities. These positions offer a chance to work in one of the most diverse and beautiful landscapes in Colorado while contributing to the important mission of caring for the land and serving people. Anticipated opportunities are listed below along with their duty station location.

Position	Series - Grade	Announcement Number	Location
Wildland Firefighter	GW-0456-03	27-TEMPF3-R2-2PC033-3DH	La Jara, CO Monte Vista, CO Saguache, CO
Wildland Firefighter	GW-0456-04	27-TEMPF3-R2-2PC048-4DH	La Jara, CO Monte Vista, CO Saguache, CO
Wildland Firefighter - Hotshot/Handcrew	GW-0456-04	27-TEMPF3-R2-2PC049-4DH	Monte Vista, CO
Wildland Firefighter - Senior	GW-0456-5	27-TEMPF3-R2-2PC029-5DH	La Jara, CO Monte Vista, CO Saguache, CO
Wildland Firefighter – Hotshot/Handcrew	GW-0456-5	27-TEMPF3-R2-2PC028-5DH	Monte Vista, CO



About the Positions

The Rio Grande National Forest Fire & Fuels Management is anticipating to be hiring Wildland Fire Engine and Fire Suppression Module 1039 temporary seasonal crew members for the 2027 wildfire season. These are wildland firefighter job opportunities at GW-03/04/05 levels. The summer work season will start around mid-April with employment ending approximately in November, depending on budget and workload. Bunkhouse style government housing is available.

The fire management unit has been averaging 15 wildfires a year plus another 10 mutual aid fire response in the San Luis Valley. Also, several prescribed fires can be conducted at any time of the year. Crew members have been averaging three off unit wildfire assignments each summer, plus additional off unit assignments by assisting neighboring Forests with their prescribed fire implementation. Opportunity for firefighters to be on a fireline for 50+ days each year.

About the Forest

The Rio Grande NF is 1.86 million acres located in southern Colorado. The Continental Divide runs for 236 miles along most of the western border of the Forest. The Forest presents a myriad of ecosystems, from the 7,600-ft. alpine desert floor to over 14,300-ft. mountains in the Sangre de Cristo Wilderness on the eastern side. The Forest embraces the San Luis Valley, the largest agricultural alpine valley in the world. The Rio Grande NF includes all or parts of 4 Wilderness Areas (South San Juan, Weminuche, La Garita and Sangre de Cristo), the headwaters of the Rio Grande River and the moonscape wonder of the Wheeler Geologic Area, established by Theodore Roosevelt in 1911.

How to Apply

Applicants can apply online by submitting their application package through www.USAJobs.gov when vacancy announcement numbers open on 10/30/2026. Application package must be submitted by announcement closing at midnight Eastern time on 11/12/2026.

Questions?

For more information about working on the Rio Grande National Forest Fire & Fuels unit, please reach out to:

- La Jara, Monte Vista, Saguache; Wildland Firefighter positions, Rio Grande Fire-Fuels program
Joshua Jordan, Zone Assistant Fire Management Officer
719.850.2383 joshua.jordan@usda.gov
- Monte Vista; Wildland Firefighter - Hotshot/Handcrew, Wildland Firefighter positions
Dominic Ali, Captain Silverthread Suppression Module
719.850.4054 dominic.ali@usda.gov
- La Jara Wildland Firefighter positions
Kalie Giardina, Engine Captain
719.480.0318 kalie.giardina@usda.gov

We encourage you to share this outreach widely with anyone who may be interested.