



OUTREACH NOTICE REGION 6 FOREST SERVICE UMATILLA NF PENDLETON, OR

"Caring for the Land and Serving People"



January 23, 2014

GS-4/5, Soil Scientist Trainee (Pathways)
Permanent Full Time

The Umatilla National Forest will soon be advertising for a GS-499-4/5, Student Trainee Biological Science position. This position is intended to train at the Umatilla National Forest, with future conversion to a permanent Soil Scientist on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. Location of the Wallowa-Whitman NF duty station will be determined between the completion of training, and during the conversion to permanent status. Anyone interested in further information or in receiving news of the proposed vacancy announcement; should complete the attached Outreach Response Form. Completed outreach forms (not applications) should be returned to Jim Archuleta at jgarchuleta@fs.fed.us by February 14th, 2014. For more information call Jim Archuleta at 541-278-3817 (work) or 541-520-3998 (cell).

FOREST SERVICE EMPLOYEES ON THE WORKFORCE REDUCTION PLACEMENT SYSTEM LIST WILL RECEIVE PRIORITY CONSIDERATION AND CTAP/ICTAP CANDIDATES WILL RECEIVE THE APPROPRIATE CONSIDERATION.

PLEASE NOTE: The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to determine the potential applicant pool for this position and to establish the appropriate recruitment method and area of consideration for the advertisement (e.g., target grade or multi-grade and service-wide, region-wide, government-wide, or DEMO). Responses received from this outreach notice will be relied upon to make this determination.

THE POSITION

This position works directly with a professional soil scientist on the Umatilla NF (Supervisor's Office), to learn how the Forest Service conducts soil resource assessment, management and restoration. The person selected will learn to perform field assessment and conduct mapping exercises to evaluate soils issues in specific project areas, and make management interpretations for various soil types. This information will be used to inform management and other natural resource specialists about the inherent capability of the landscape to meet desired management objectives and to predict potential future impacts and prescribe mitigations for any proposed activities to help maintain the productivity of the soil resource on the landscape. The employee will work in an interdisciplinary environment with other natural resource specialists to help them meet their land management objectives, without degrading the soil resource. Once training is completed permanent placement of the candidate will be on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. This placement is to fill the need for a forest soils resource specialist on the Wallowa-Whitman NF. Work will be to bring information about the soil resource forward to help create informed land management decisions during project planning. To meet the expectations of this permanent position the candidate will need to meet OPM¹ qualifications for a professional soil scientist upon competition of their education.

¹ Office of Personnel Management.

OPM QUALIFICATIONS TO BE A SOIL SCIENTIST (Series 0470)

Basic Requirements

1. Degree: soil science or a closely related discipline that included 30 semester hours or equivalent in biological, physical, or earth science, with a minimum of 15 semester hours in such subjects as soil genesis, pedology, soil chemistry, soil physics, and soil fertility.

or

2. Combination of education and experience: courses equivalent to a major in soil science or a related discipline that included at least 30 semester hours in the biological, physical, or earth sciences. At least 15 of these semester hours must have been in the areas specified in A above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

THE UMATILLA NATIONAL FOREST

The Umatilla National Forest consists of four Ranger Districts covering approximately 1.4 million acres. The name is taken from the Indian word meaning “water rippling over sand.” It is located in the beautiful Blue Mountains of northeastern Oregon and southeastern Washington adjacent to the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The Forest contains a variety of conifers and a few hardwood tree species. Extensive rangeland is also allotted for cattle and sheep grazing. The Forest currently employs 170 permanent employees.

Hunting and fishing make up almost 50 percent of the recreation use on the Umatilla. Camping, picnicking, boating, hiking and riding horseback are also popular. The Forest has a large concentration of Rocky Mountain Elk. Mule deer and whitetail deer are also abundant. The Forest is also home to downhill ski areas and numerous cross country skiing trails. Snowmobiling is also permitted on the Forest. Three designated wilderness areas lie within the forest boundaries.

PENDLETON

Located in Umatilla County, Pendleton has a population of approximately 15,000 (swells to 50,000+ during the week of the annual Pendleton Round-up in September). The city is located on I-84 and is a 3+ hour drive from Portland and 3 1/2 hours from Boise.

http://dir.yahoo.com/Regional/U_S_States/Oregon/Cities/Pendleton/

Housing

There is no Government housing available. There is good availability of apartment rentals, but rental houses are somewhat limited. There is good availability of houses for sale in a wide range of prices. If you have an interest, please check with us for more detailed information on availability and cost of housing.

Schools

There are five public elementary schools (K-5), one public middle school (6-8), and one public high school (9-12). Also located in Pendleton are Harris Junior Academy (Adventists, 1-10), Lighthouse Christian Academy (United Pentecostal, K-12), and Blue Mountain Christian Academy (1-12). Pendleton is also the home of Blue Mountain Community College.

Medical Facilities

St. Anthony's Hospital, plus a wide variety of physicians, dentists, clinics, chiropractors, etc.

Churches

There are a large number of churches in Pendleton; most denominations are represented.

Shopping

Pendleton is a full-service community with a reasonable variety of shopping opportunities. A wider range of shopping can be found in Tri-cities (Kennewick, Pasco, Richland), Washington, which is a little over an hour away via freeway.

Recreation

There are a good number of city parks, public tennis courts, fields for baseball, softball, soccer, etc. A municipal "Water Park" that offers an Olympic-size swimming pool, diving pool, wading pools, and water slides for family entertainment. Facilities at Blue Mountain Community College are available to the public, including swimming, racquetball courts, exercise equipment, etc. Roundup Athletic Club (discounted membership fees to Forest employees) with exercise equipment, swimming, and racquetball. There are many nearby outdoors opportunities such as hunting, fishing, boating and water skiing, hiking, snow skiing, and other forest-related activities. Each September, Pendleton plays host to the world famous Pendleton Round-up, Rodeo and Happy Canyon Pageant.

Clubs and Organizations

Most civic organizations and clubs are represented.

OUTREACH RESPONSE FORM

Umatilla National Forest

Position: Soil Scientist (Pathways)

If you are interested in this position, please complete the information below and attach it to an e-mail and return to: Jim Archuleta. You may also complete the form and send via US Postal Service mail to: Umatilla NF, 72510 Coyote Road, Pendleton, OR 97801 or fax 541-278-3974 Atten: Jim Archuleta

Please reply no later than February 14th, 2014. *Resumes will only be accepted at www.usajobs.gov when this job is announced.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Tell us how we can contact you:

Postal Mail Address: _____
Street city state zip code

E-Mail Address: _____ Office Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Are you currently a Federal employee? YES ___ NO ___

IF YES: Current Agency and location: _____

Current title/series/grade: _____

Type of Appointment: ___Permanent ___Term ___Temporary

If you are not a current permanent (career or career conditional) employee, indicate whether you are eligible for appointment under any of the following special authorities:

___Person With Disabilities ___Veterans Recruitment Act ___Former Peace Corps Volunteer
___Disabled Veteran w/30% Compensable Disability ___Student Career Experience Program
___Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998 ___Other

Briefly describe why you will be a quality candidate for this position:

Thank you for your interest in our vacancy.