

ELDORADO NATIONAL FOREST

OUTREACH

Biological Science Technician (Plants)

GS-0404-05/06/07

Eldorado National Forest

Supervisor's Office

Location/Duty Station: Placerville, CA

The Eldorado National Forest is planning to fill a permanent, full-time Biological Science Technician (Plants). This position will be responsible for performing a variety of complex and recurring technical duties in support of the Eldorado's noxious weed control program.

The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to determine the potential applicant pool for this position and to establish the appropriate recruitment method, e.g. merit and demo announcements; use of special hiring authorities such as veteran hiring authorities and persons with disabilities authorities; and area of consideration for the advertisement.

Individuals stating interest in this position with the Outreach Response Form found at the end of this notice will be notified when the vacancy announcement is posted on USAJOBS. If interested, please return the Outreach Response Form by September 19th, 2014.

Major Duties

Performs a variety of routine and complex technical tasks to prevent and control noxious weeds in the Forest involving a full range of integrated weed management techniques, e.g., biological, cultural, mechanical, chemical, and prevention.

Schedules, organizes, and conducts field surveys to identify, document, and map noxious weed infestations. Collects data and enters data into databases; generates reports from databases; prepares written and graphical reports of findings in a variety of formats; and assembles information for development of noxious weeds control project plans. Compiles, manages, analyzes, and interprets data collected by the incumbent and others; provides noxious weed information for project

analysis which may include written reports and/or summaries; links tabular data to locational parameters using Geographical Information Systems (GIS) database technologies and Geographical Positioning Systems (GPS) location technology; makes recommendations based upon analysis of data and research on the best methods for control and eradication of noxious weeds. Produces accurate maps of noxious weed infestations using GIS database technology and GPS location technology. Participates in weed control activities including the physical removal of invasive weeds. Provides work direction and guidance to seasonal employees and volunteers in the accomplishment of similar projects including safe handling of tools and operation of motorized vehicles.

Operates a variety of field equipment commonly used in treating, preventing, and eradicating noxious weeds such as all-terrain vehicles (ATV's), utility terrain vehicles (UTV's), herbicide application equipment, GPS equipment, and cameras.

Serves as the Contracting Officer Representative (COR) on a variety of noxious weed control projects. These projects may include, but are not limited to; monitoring sites of weed infestations to ensure control plans are being implemented and assisting with evaluation of the plan's effectiveness; taking photographs of areas in violation, and collecting, tagging, and securing samples of weeds; and documenting visits and maintaining files and records on site control programs. Performs routine established inspection duties under close supervision of the Contracting Officer (CO). Insures that noxious weed control plans are accomplished in accordance with established operations criteria, rules, methods, and contracts. Notifies COR of non-compliance with written noxious weed control agreements.

Assists in preparing and presenting noxious weed informational and/or educational materials to employees, partners, volunteers, contractors, and permittees to improve early detection of new weed infestations.

Provides timely input to supervisor regarding program needs, including estimated costs, e.g., for supplies. Summarizes and tracks actual expenditures. Conducts purchases as needed during project implementation and keeps supervisor informed of purchases for tracking and work plan preparation purposes.

NOTE: The duties of this position require the incumbent to obtain and maintain a State Herbicide Applicator's License. The incumbent must obtain the license within 120 days of the initial appointment to the position.

Specific questions regarding the position can be addressed to:

Matt Brown, Botanist, (530) 642-5110
mrbrown@fs.fed.us

or

Blake Engelhardt, Botanist, (530) 295-5619
bengelhardt@fs.fed.us

Eldorado National Forest

The Eldorado National Forest is recognized as a desirable place to work. Elevations range from 2000 ft. in the foothills to more than 10,000 along the Sierra Crest. A Mediterranean climate extends over most of the Forest, with warm, dry summers, and cold, wet winters. Average precipitation ranges from 40 to 70 inches, occurring primarily from October to April. There is significant snowfall above 3000 feet elevation.

The Forest and surrounding communities offer a wide variety of recreational activities. There are lakes, reservoirs, several cross-country and downhill ski areas, two unique wilderness areas (Desolation and Mokelumne), over 40 developed campgrounds, several resort areas, golf courses, and outstanding local wineries and fruit orchards. Opportunities abound for water skiing, white water sports (Class II to Class V), mountain biking, OHV travel, rock climbing, fishing, hunting and hiking. Local community theatres offer stage plays and a variety of musical entertainment. Although El Dorado County makes up the largest segment of the Forest, portions of Alpine, Amador and Placer counties lie within the Forest Boundary. In close proximity to the forest are the communities of South Lake Tahoe and Sacramento, which offer additional recreational and cultural activities including professional and semi-professional sports.

Rental houses and apartments generally range from \$850-\$1400 per month. Purchase prices for 2-3 bedroom homes range from \$180,000 to \$450,000+. Land and/or lots are available as well.

There are several elementary and high schools within El Dorado County. For more information on schools in El Dorado County visit this website: <http://www.edcoe.k12.ca.us>. Community colleges in the area include Folsom Lake College (El Dorado Center in Placerville), Sierra College in Rocklin, American River College and Sacramento City College in Sacramento and Lake Tahoe Community College in South Lake Tahoe. Four-year colleges and universities include California State University-Sacramento and University of California at Davis.

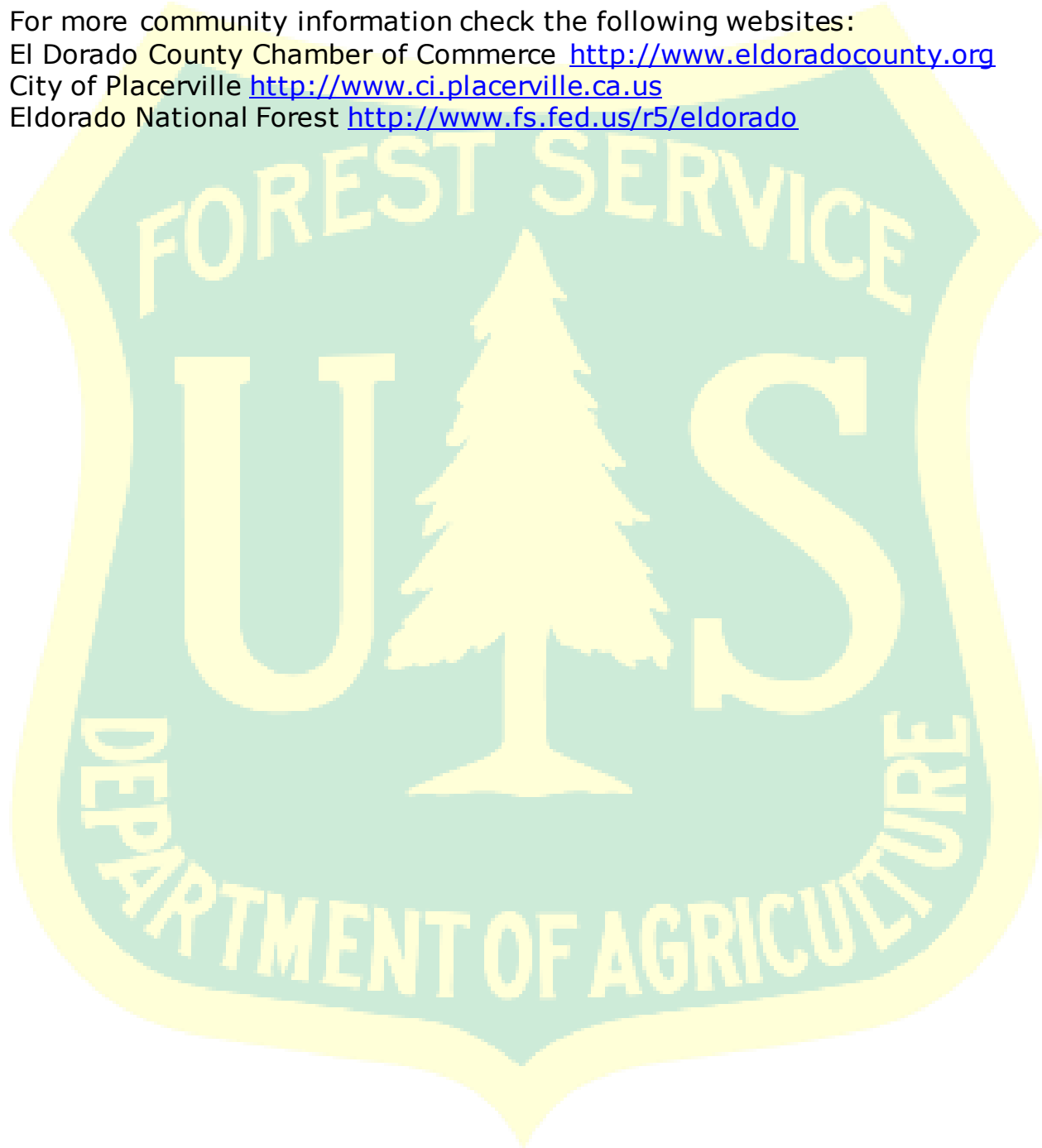
Marshall Hospital, located in Placerville, is the closest well-equipped medical center. There are many local doctor and dentist offices in Placerville. There are several major hospitals in the Sacramento area including Kaiser Hospitals in Sacramento and Roseville.

For more community information check the following websites:

El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce <http://www.eldoradocounty.org>

City of Placerville <http://www.ci.placerville.ca.us>

Eldorado National Forest <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/eldorado>



OPTIONAL -- OUTREACH RESPONSE FORM

Pacific Southwest Region, USDA Forest Service
Eldorado National Forest

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Biological Science Technician (Plants)
Duty Location: Placerville, CA

If you are interested in position, please let us know by returning the reply form no later than **09/19/14**. Send your notice to:

Tom Nichols, Forest Civil Rights Officer
Phone: (530) 621-5203
Email: tnichols@fs.fed.us

NAME: _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

AGENCY EMPLOYED WITH: USFS _____ BLM _____ OTHER _____

TYPE OF APPOINTMENT IF CURRENT GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE:
_____ PERMANENT _____ TEMPORARY _____ TERM
_____ VRA _____ PWD _____ OTHER

CURRENT REGION/FOREST/DISTRICT (IF APPLICABLE): _____

CURRENT SERIES AND GRADE (IF APPLICABLE) _____

CURRENT POSITION TITLE: _____

How did you hear about this position? Organization Name _____
Agency Contact _____ Other _____

IF NOT A CURRENT PERMANENT (CAREER OR CAREER CONDITIONAL) EMPLOYEE, ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO BE HIRED UNDER ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL AUTHORITIES:

_____ **PERSON WITH DISABILITIES**
_____ **VETERANS RECRUITMENT ACT**
_____ **DISABLED VETERANS W/30% COMPENSABLE DISABILITY**
_____ **VETERANS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES ACT OF 1998**
_____ **FORMER PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER**
_____ **PATHWAYS PROGRAM**
_____ **OTHER** _____