



**U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service
Employment Outreach Notice**

**Forestry Technician
GS-0462-05/06**

Pay Rate Range \$15.00 to \$22.92 per hour

Pacific Northwest Research Station
Resource Monitoring and Assessment Program

Please reply with form attached by Dec 8th, 2014

The PNW Research Station, Portland Forestry Sciences Lab, **anticipates filling at least 3 positions** as field data collection crew members with the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program. Salary is dependent on location and grade. One position will be based in each of the following locations: **Twisp Washington, Portland Oregon, and Bend, Oregon** (three of 16 FIA satellite duty stations). **Additional vacancies in other satellite duty stations may be filled based on changes in current workforce. Please indicate ALL duty stations of interest on the outreach response form.**

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. Responses received from this outreach notice will be used to make this determination.

The vacancy announcement for this position, when open, will be posted at the USA Jobs website, the U.S. Government's official site for jobs and employment information: <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>

About the position:

These are permanent seasonal positions, consisting of 18 pay periods of full time work and 8 pay periods of non-pay status per year. Appointees may be offered the opportunity to work longer depending on workload and funding. These positions are career ladder with the full performance level at a GS-06.

The positions are with the Data Collection Team of the PNW Research Station's Resource Monitoring and Assessment (RMA) Program, Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) unit. The FIA unit is part of a nationwide program which collects, processes, analyzes, evaluates, and publishes comprehensive information on forest and other related renewable resources. Administration for this Data Collection team is located in Portland, Oregon and field crews are remotely stationed throughout Washington, Oregon and California.

These positions will support work sampling field plots located on a systematic grid across all landownerships and will be almost entirely field based. A wide variety of information is collected in the inventory including: tree measurements; forest pathogens, understory vegetation composition and structure, stand treatments and disturbances, down woody material measurements, and land ownership.

The areas sampled for the Forest Inventory by the PNW Research Station cover a diversity of ecological communities which include: the temperate rain forests of coastal Oregon and Washington, the redwood coastal forests of California; high mountain conifer forests of the Cascades and Sierras; drier ponderosa pine, oak woodland and juniper forests of Oregon, Washington and California. Each crew covers a large area, and no matter where you work, you will see a wide variety of country.

Crew members work under the direction of a local crew leader and work alongside one to three people. Crews will use maps, aerial photos, and GPS units to navigate to permanent plot locations. Measurements taken by crews include: tree/sapling/seedling data (species, diameter, height, defect, insect & disease, damage, etc.); understory vegetation (shrub, herb, grass species and percent cover, etc.); down woody material (line transects, litter depth, and fuels measurement, etc.); and site index and site attributes (site tree selection, slope, aspect, topographic position, distance to water, etc.). Crews use portable, handheld computers to collect data in the field and then process the data later using laptop computers to address any inconsistencies or errors.

The field-season typically runs from early April through early November. Each crew travels frequently and independently within their duty station area. Crews can expect to travel away from home for a significant portion of the field season. Travel will sometimes involve week-long trips while other times crews may need to spend a month away from home. During travel periods, crews will change locations about weekly. Lodging is generally in motel/hotels and car camping, with occasional backpacking required.

In all areas, work conditions are often arduous. Work may be performed in inclement weather (cold, heat, rain, snow) and on rugged, steep, slippery, and/or brushy slopes. Significant amounts of on-trail and off-trail hiking are required. Crewmembers must carry a 45lb pack daily, with pack weights sometimes exceeding 60lbs. Exposure to hazards such as poison oak, bears, and insects is common. Additionally, travel by helicopter, stock animal, or boat is occasionally required.

Duty Station information:

Portland, Oregon:

The Portland FIA crew traditionally covers the northwestern territory of Oregon State. Bounded by the Columbia River to the north and the Pacific Ocean to the west the duty station expands south to Corvallis in the Willamette Valley and east to the John Day River. The work zone encompasses the temperate rainforest of the Coastal Range to the subalpine slopes of Mt Hood and surrounding Cascade Mountains and over the dry

ponderosa and Juniper in the high deserts of eastern Oregon. The work area includes the Mt Hood and Willamette National Forests, Tillamook State Forest, Warm Springs Indian Reservation, Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area, and numerous private lands held by both individuals and industry. Actual work area boundaries fluctuate yearly based on workload and travel outside this area will be required to assist other field crews if necessary to meet program critical objectives (though the majority of the field season will be spent in Northwest Oregon).

One must be comfortable with remote work environments and off-trail hiking in this duty station as well as work in the urban wild land interface. Long work days and long drives including commutes in an urban environment are unavoidable.

Community Information:

Portland is the largest city in the U.S. state of Oregon, near the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia rivers. According to the 2010 Census, it had a population of 583,776, estimated to have reached 609,456 in 2013, making it the 29th most populous city in the United States and the third most populous city in the Pacific Northwest region. Approximately 2,314,554 people live in the Portland metropolitan area (MSA), the 19th most populous MSA in the United States.

Located in the Marine west coast climate region, Portland has a climate marked by both warm, dry summers and wet, cool-to-chilly winter days. The city is known for its abundant outdoor activities, liberal political values, and beer and coffee enthusiasm. Portland is home to a large number of independent microbreweries, micro distilleries and food carts that contribute to the unofficial slogan "Keep Portland Weird".

Bend, Oregon:

The Bend FIA crew traditionally covers a territory starting at the Warm Springs Indian Reservation to the north covering the eastern slopes of the Oregon Cascades south to Crater Lake National Park. The work zone extends from the Pacific Crest east to the high deserts of eastern Oregon near Burns. The area covers the Willamette, Ochoco, and Deschutes National Forest including the Three Sisters Wilderness Area. Actual work area boundaries fluctuate yearly based on workload and travel outside this area will be required to assist other field crews if necessary to meet program critical objectives (though the majority of the field season will be spent in Central and East Oregon).

The subalpine forests of the Oregon Cascades down through the high-elevation lava tablelands define the environment that encompasses much of this work zone. Stands of ponderosa, lodgepole pine and western juniper make up much of the sample. Work sites include forest land on industry, privately owned, national park, BLM, State and NFS lands.

Community Information:

Bend is located on the eastern edge of the Cascade Range along the Deschutes River. Here the Ponderosa Pine forest transitions into the high desert, characterized by arid

land, junipers, sagebrush, and bitter-brush. Originally a crossing point on the river, settlement began in the early 1900s. Bend was incorporated as a city in 1905. Economically, it started as a logging town but is now identified as a gateway for many outdoor sports, including mountain biking, fishing, hiking, camping, rock climbing, white-water rafting, skiing, paragliding and golf.

Duty Station information:

Twisp, Washington:

The Twisp FIA crew traditionally covers a territory covering the Central Washington Cascades and Northeastern Washington Columbia Mountains. Bounded by the Canadian border to the north, the area extends south to Lake Chelan. The Pacific Crest marks the western boundary, from there the work zone extends east across the Okanogan highlands and Kettle Range ending at the Columbia River in the east. North Cascades National Park, Pasayten Wilderness, Lake Chelan Sawtooth Wilderness, and the Colville Indian Reservation highlight some of the sample areas of this work unit. Actual work area boundaries fluctuate yearly based on workload and travel outside this area will be required to assist other field crews if necessary to meet program critical objectives (though the majority of the field season will be spent in North Central and Northeast Washington).

The forests are diverse and include stands of Douglas-Fir/mixed conifer, high elevation mixed-conifer, and dry pine forests make up much of the sample. Work sites include forest land on industry, privately owned, national park, BLM, State, Tribal and NFS lands (portions of the Okanogan-Wenatchee, and Colville National Forests are in this work area).

One must be comfortable with camping, hiking off-trail, and remote work environments in this duty station. Long work days and long highway drives are unavoidable. In addition, a 5 to 10 day horse pack trip is usually required to access the most remote areas of the work. Work may often be required on weekends.

Community Information:

Twisp, Washington is called the “heart of the Methow Valley”. Its geographical location and status as the largest town in the Valley (925 people) are part of the reason it’s perceived as “the heart”. Twisp is located on the Methow River at its confluence with the Twisp River. The town’s relaxed and delightful downtown is home to restaurants, cafes, brewpubs, natural foods, delis and bakeries. Twisp is also the business heart of the Methow Valley with all the services and shopping you need, from automotive services to groceries to insurance to real estate to construction services.

Nearby hikes will take you to panoramic views of the Sawtooth and North Cascades ranges. Climb to alpine lakes or wander beside the river. In winter, cross-country or back-country ski options abound, along with groomed snowmobile trails. There is world-renowned steelhead and salmon fishing in the rivers surrounding the area.

For more information:

Please visit our team's website for more information, including an information page on how to join our team! <http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/rma/fia-topics/data-collection/>

If you are interested in a crew member position at any of our locations with the Pacific Northwest Research Station, please use the attached response form to express your interest by **December 8th, 2014** and you will be notified when the positions are advertised.

You can send your response electronically to:

pnw_fia_outreach@fs.fed.us (please use the subject line "PNW-FIA-Forestry Tech") or by regular mail to:

Justin Holgerson
620 SW Main, Suite 400
Portland, OR 97205

For more information about the duties and work conditions of this position, please contact:

Jane Terzibashian
Oregon State Coordinator
620 SW Main St., Suite 400
Portland, OR 97205
pnw_fia_outreach@fs.fed.us

Justin Holgerson
Washington State Coordinator
620 SW Main St., Suite 400
Portland, OR 97205
pnw_fia_outreach@fs.fed.us

This is a pre-announcement only. When the position is advertised, the announcement will be posted on the Office of Personnel Management web site: www.usajobs.gov. The announcement will contain all of the information you need to apply for the position.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). Persons with disabilities who require alternate means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotapes, etc) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

To be considered, applicants must be U.S. citizens.



**OUTREACH NOTICE RESPONSE FORM
GS-462-5/6 Forestry Technician
PNW-FIA Field Crew Member
Pacific Northwest Research Station
Resource Monitoring and Assessment Program
Forest Inventory and Analysis**

PLEASE SUBMIT BY DECEMBER 8th, 2014

If you are interested in these positions and want to receive a notice when the Vacancy Announcement is posted, please complete this form and send it to: Justin Holgerson, 620 SW Main Street, Suite 400, Portland, OR 97205 or pnw_fia_outreach@fs.fed.us using subject line "PNW-FIA Forestry Tech." These positions will be advertised on the OPM USAJobs website www.usajobs.gov.

NAME:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

MAILING ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

If you are currently employed by the Federal Government:

WHAT AGENCY ARE YOU EMPLOYED BY:

TYPE OF APPOINTMENT:

PERMANENT_____TEMPORARY_____TERM_____OTHER_____

If employed by the Forest Service:

WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT REGION/FOREST/DISTRICT/STATION?

CURRENT SERIES AND GRADE:

CURRENT POSITION TITLE:

If you are not currently a Federal Employee:

CURRENT EMPLOYER:

CURRENT POSITION TITLE AND SALARY:

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

NAME:

Are you eligible for appointment under any of the following special authorities?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Former Peace Corps | <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran's Employment Opportunities Act of 1998 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Person with Disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran's Readjustment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student Employment Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement Eligibility |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran with 30% Compensable Disability | <input type="checkbox"/> Other_____ |

Duty Station(s) of Interest (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Twisp, WA | <input type="checkbox"/> Klamath Falls, OR |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Olympia, WA | <input type="checkbox"/> Mt. Shasta, CA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cle Elum, WA | <input type="checkbox"/> Redding, CA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sedro-Woolley, WA | <input type="checkbox"/> Chico, CA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Portland, OR | <input type="checkbox"/> Mammoth Lakes, CA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eugene, OR | <input type="checkbox"/> Fresno, CA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grants Pass, OR | <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Clarita, CA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LaGrande, OR | <input type="checkbox"/> INTERESTED IN ALL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bend, OR | |

Thank you for your interest in our vacancy.

The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to determine the potential applicant pool for this position and to establish an appropriate recruitment method and area of consideration for the vacancy announcement (Region-wide, Service-wide, USDA-wide, Government-wide, and/or DEMO). Responses received from this outreach notice will be relied upon to make these determinations.

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