****

OUTREACH NOTICE

# REGION 1, LOLO NATIONAL FOREST

**Forester - Sale Administration**

**GS-0460-07/09**

**Permanent Fill**

The Lolo National Forest will soon be filling a position as Forester - Sale Administration GS-0460-07/09. This is a full-time, permanent position on the Forest, with a duty station of Superior, MT. This position covers the West Zone (Superior and Plains/Thompson Falls Ranger Districts) of the Lolo National Forest. The incumbent will work as a member of the West Zone Timber group. While primary responsibility will be on the Plains/Thompson Falls and Superior Ranger Districts, occasional travel may be required to support sale administration needs on other portions of the Forest.

**OUTREACH RESPONSE**

The purpose of this outreach notice is to determine interest in the permanent fill. Interested applicants, or those desiring further information should respond to this outreach by **November 4, 2019**. The permanent fill will be hired through a Single Vacancy Announcement. Applicants who respond to this opportunity will be notified when it becomes available.

**ABOUT THE POSITION**

**Duties include:**

* Perform sale administration duties on timber and stewardship contracts
* Conduct inspections of logging operations for compliance with contract provisions
* Maintain records of timber cut and ensure collection of payments ahead of cutting schedules
* Ensure accountability of all products removed
* Conduct final inspection and recommend closure of the timber sale contract
* Support Interdisciplinary Teams for NEPA projects
* Perform a variety of sale and contract preparation activities as needed to support projects
* Communicate regularly with the public, collaborators and contractors

**Desirable skills include:**

* Ability to work independently and in a team
* Strong communication skills
* Project management skills
* Experience with layout, cruising and harvest systems

**Required Certifications:**

* Applicants should be a certified Sale Administrator or able to obtain their certification within three years of reaching the target level grade

**Physical Requirements:**

The work varies from office work usually at a computer to field work requiring strenuous physical exertion for extended periods including walking on uneven, steep terrain in winter, spring and summer conditions.

**Additional Information:**

For additional information concerning the duties of the job and/or how to apply, contact Mike Mueller, acting Supervisory Forester (406) 822-3931, Dan Castillo, Contracting Officer (406) 329-3782, or Carole Johnson, District Ranger (406) 822-4233

**ABOUT THE LOLO NATIONAL FOREST**

**Superior, MT**

The town of Superior is located on the Clark Fork River, about 55 miles west of Missoula and 47 miles east of the Montana/Idaho border at Lookout Pass. It is the county seat of Mineral County. The population of Superior is about 800, and the population of Mineral County is about 3500. Interstate 90 runs the length of Mineral County, and is a major travel route for accessing recreational opportunities and nearby facilities and services. The elevation of Superior is 2710', and the surrounding mountains include peaks up to 7700'. Precipitation averages 16-18 inches/year in the valley bottoms. The summertime average high temperature is 85 degrees, and the wintertime average low temperature is 20 degrees.

Home prices in the area range from $100,000 to $350,000. A variety of private rentals are available. Government housing is not available at this time, but a bunkhouse is available during the summer months. There are schools with grades K-12 both in Superior and in St. Regis. Mineral Community Hospital is located in Superior. Major medical facilities and regional shopping facilities are available in Missoula. The University of Montana is also located in Missoula. Commercial airports are located in Missoula and in Spokane, Washington.

Outdoor recreational opportunities are plentiful in Mineral County. There are 5 developed campgrounds, over 700 dispersed recreation sites, 5 drive-to high elevation lakes, over 40 other mountain lakes, miles of streams and rivers, over 400 miles of trails, the Lookout Pass ski area, the Route of the Hiawatha mountain bike trail, rafting and floating including the Alberton Gorge, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, and excellent fishing, hunting and wildlife viewing. There is a golf course in St. Regis and tennis courts and a pool in Superior. The area is also centrally located for trips to popular areas such as Glacier Park, the Salmon River country, and the Bob Marshall Wilderness complex.

For more information about Superior and Mineral County:

<http://montana.hometownlocator.com/MT/Mineral/Superior.cfm>

<http://www.travelmt.com/mt-cities-Superior.html>

<http://www.city-data.com/city/Superior-Montana.html>

**Plains, MT**

The Plains/Thompson Falls District is approximately 492,000 acres, located in Sanders County, Montana, adjacent to the Idaho border. The district includes portions of the Cabinet and Bitterroot Mountains, bisected by the beautiful Clark Fork River. The Ranger Station is located in Plains (population 1,100), approximately 80 miles northwest of Missoula, MT, on scenic Highway 200. Thompson Falls (population 1,500) is 24 miles west of Plains, and is the county seat for Sanders County.

Plains is known as the “banana belt” of Montana. Weather is moderate, with a relatively normal year having only a few days where temperatures will drop below zero in the winter or climb above 90 degrees during the summer. Summer nights are generally cool. With elevations ranging from 2000 feet to over 7,500 feet, vegetation is fairly diverse, including valley bottom agricultural lands, open Ponderosa pine slopes, mixed conifer stands, and alpine ridge tops.

Plains, Thompson Falls, and Hot Springs (20 miles northeast of Plains) each offer schooling for grades K-12. All major services, including medical facilities, are available in the local communities, with a community hospital located in Plains. Major medical centers are available in Missoula, as well as Kalispell, MT or Spokane, WA. International airports are located 80 miles southeast in Missoula, or 100 miles west in Spokane, WA.

The communities each have well stocked grocery and hardware stores, numerous service stations, drug stores, banks, laundromats, restaurants, and enough bars and churches for everyone. There are two local newspapers in the area:

Valley Press, PO Box 667, Plains, MT 59859

Sanders County Ledger, P.O. Box 219, Thompson Falls, MT 59873

Limited housing is available within the community. There is a Forest Service residential compound (3 houses) at the Ranger Station plus bunkhouse living quarters. Availability of the residential houses is limited and is dependent upon if any houses are unoccupied. The average cost of housing is roughly $150,000 - $250,000. Rental homes generally cost $500-$750 per month and are difficult to find.

Additional community information can be found at [www.co.sanders.mt.us](http://www.co.sanders.mt.us), [www.thompsonfallsmt.com](http://www.thompsonfallsmt.com), and [www.city-data.com](http://www.city-data.com).

Recreation opportunities are widely varied and unlimited, including the usual suspects such as fishing, hiking, hunting, skiing, boating, etc. The area boasts a readily viewable bighorn sheep population as well as elk, whitetail and mule deer, moose, goats, bears, wolves and lions. There are many trails for hiking, camping, and photography. Both Plains and Thompson Falls have full-sized community swimming pools. Golfing is also available, with one nine-hole golf course just a short distance from Plains, along with a very nice nine-hole course along the river at Thompson Falls. There are many mountain lakes full of trout, some accessible from the road system while others require some hiking.

For more information about Plains and Sanders County:

<http://www.city-data.com/city/Plains-Montana.html>

<http://www.plains-mt.org/>

<http://www.plainsisd.net/>

<https://www.cfvh.org/>

**OUTREACH NOTICE RESPONSE FORM**

**Lolo National Forest**

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| **Position Title/Series/Grade:** | Forester GS-0460-07/09 |
|  |  |
| **Location**: | Superior, MT |

**Personal Information**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name**: |  |  | **Date**: |  |
| **Address**: |  |
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| **E-Mail Address:** | | |  | |
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| **Phone**: | Office |  | |
|  | Cell: |  | |

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| --- | --- |
| **Current Title/Series/Grade:** |  |

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| --- | --- |
| **Highest Position Held:** |  |
| **Title/Series/Grade:** |  |
| **Location:** |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Are you currently a Federal Employee?** | **Yes:** |  |  | **No:** |  |

**IF YES:**

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| **Type of Appoint you are currently under:** | |  |
| **(e.g., Career, Career-Conditional, Excepted)** | | |
| **Current Agency and location:** |  | |
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**IF NO:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Are you currently a temporary employee?** | **Yes:** |  |  | **No:** |  |

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

NOTE: If you are interested in applying to this position, please complete and return the attached outreach reply form by **November 4, 2019.** Applicants interested in this position should contact Mike Mueller, acting West Zone Timber Management Assistant (406) 822-3931, [michael.l.mueller@usda.gov](mailto:michael.l.mueller@usda.gov); Dan Castillo, Contracting Officer (406) 329-3782, [dan.castillo@usda.gov](mailto:dan.castillo@usda.gov); or Carole Johnson, District Ranger (406) 822-4233, [carole.johnson@usda.gov](mailto:carole.johnson@usda.gov).

**Thank you for your interest in our vacancy!**