



# Vacancy Announcement

USDA Forest Service • Pacific Southwest Region

## INYO NATIONAL FOREST

Bishop, California



### Wildland Firefighter Apprentices Hiring

GS-0462-05

PERMANENT FULL TIME POSITION OUTREACH

**Apply by December 28, 2016**

The Region 5 Fire Hire program has been implemented to streamline the hiring process for permanent fire positions and provide consistent hiring throughout the Region. This hiring process assists the National Forests in the Pacific Southwest Region (Region 5) to fill vacancies in an efficient and timely manner.

#### Inyo National Forest Wildland Firefighter Apprentices

The Inyo National Forest is excited to offer an apprenticeship training program for prospective wildland firefighters ages 18-37. **The application period is December 19-28, 2016** on [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov). The apprenticeship program is intended to develop the knowledge and basic skills necessary to work as a wildland firefighter. Apprentices will attend a 3,000-hour on-the-job learning program, which includes a 2 month-long residential firefighting academy at the Wildland Fire Training Center in McClellan, California. Apprentices will be paid and all costs of training will be covered by the Forest Service.

Upon successful completion of the program, apprentices are eligible for Forestry Technician "Firefighter Type 1" positions and will be eligible for permanent, full-time positions. Multiple duty locations are available for the permanent jobs.

Typical duties of an apprentice firefighter consist of wildland fire suppression and vegetation/fuels management in harsh conditions of heat, terrain and fuels. Basic fire operations are performed to include the use of hand and power tools, fire line construction, vegetation/fuels burning or removal and mop-up. Fire apparatus operation duties will also be required. Such duties involve meeting licensing requirements, driving over adverse terrain, operating fire pumps and valves to regulate water pressures, working with fire hoses and water additives.

#### Requirements

- Must be age 18 -37 years
- Must be a US Citizen with valid state identification
- High School Graduate or G.E.D.
- Males born after 12/31/59 must be registered with the Selective Services

#### Application Process

- Applicants must apply on [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov), beginning December 19 and ending December 28.
- Establish a profile and build or upload a resume at the USAJobs site
- For assistance, go to: [http://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Main\\_Page](http://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Main_Page)

For more detailed requirement and duty location information, visit [www.fs.fed.us/workfornature](http://www.fs.fed.us/workfornature).

**Fire and Aviation Management on the Inyo National Forest is expecting to hire 8-15 wildland firefighter apprentice in 2017.**

## **Inyo Fire Program**

The Inyo National Forest is looking for a committed, hardworking, highly skilled workforce to manage wildfires. The Interagency Fire and Aviation Management program, based out of Bishop, California, is comprised of both the Inyo N.F. and the BLM Bishop Field Office. The two agencies work together through a Service First Agreement. The work is very rewarding and requires talented and skilled people working safely as part of a team in a variety of specialized positions including:

- 9 Engine modules
- 2 Water Tenders
- 1 Type 1 Hotshot crew (20-person)
- 1 Helitack Module
- 1 Wildland Fire Module (10-person Hand-crew)
- Dispatch Center
- 7 Fire Prevention Technicians
- 1 Lookout

## **Vacancy contacts:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>E-mail</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Area of Responsibility</b>
Alan Taylor	<a href="mailto:ataylor04@fs.fed.us">ataylor04@fs.fed.us</a>	Interagency Fire Planner	(760) 647-3034	Apprentice Coordinator (Lee Vining)
Taro Pusina	<a href="mailto:taropusina@fs.fed.us">taropusina@fs.fed.us</a>	Interagency Forest FMO	(760) 873-2507	Supervisor's Office (Bishop)
Dan O'Keefe	<a href="mailto:dokeefe02@fs.fed.us">dokeefe02@fs.fed.us</a>	Battalion Chief	(760) 874-2574	Alt. Apprentice Coordinator (Bishop)

## **Wildland Firefighter Apprentice positions:**

The Inyo National Forest is seeking to fill 8-15 Wildland Firefighter Apprentice positions, GS-0462-3/5. This announcement is being circulated to inform prospective applicants of this employment opportunity.

The Wildland Firefighter Apprenticeship Program (WFAP) is an educational program designed to enhance and develop future Fire and Aviation Managers. The intent of the Program is to take an entry level firefighter and provide education, training and paid work experience over a 12 to 48 month period, depending on experience. This is a 3,000 hour on-the-job learning program including two month-long residential firefighting academies at the Wildland Fire Training Center in McClellan, California. Initial appointments are permanent seasonal: guaranteed 13 pay periods (6 months) plus 2 pay periods as needed. Upon completion of program requirements, Apprentices are eligible for noncompetitive promotions to the GS-462-5 Forestry Technician "Firefighter Type 1" without further competition and will be reassigned to a Permanent Full Time (PFT) position on a specific Module/Crew. Some positions may require a Commercial Driver's license. Apprentices may be subject to random drug testing. Pay and locality scales are available on this web site: <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/salary-tables/pdf/2016/RUS.pdf>.

Availability of government provided housing will vary by locations. Selectees must be able to meet the arduous fitness level and complete a Work Capacity Test consisting of a 3 mile hike within 45 minutes carrying a 45 pound pack. Applicants must be at least 18 and under 37 years of age. An age waiver may be granted to eligible Veterans who can meet the arduous physical standards of the position. US Citizenship and a High School graduate or GED are required. Selectees are required to maintain a valid State Driver's License. Males born after 12/31/59 must be registered with the Selective Service. For more information on the Apprenticeship program go to [www.wfap.net](http://www.wfap.net).

## **Duties:**

Serves as an apprentice firefighter on a wildland fire crew performing fire suppression and/or fuels management duties under the most adverse conditions of climate, fuels, and terrain. Performs various aspects of wildland and prescribed fire operations including preparation, ignition, monitoring, holding, and mop-up, driving engines to fire locations, frequently over unimproved roads. Starting pump engine, priming pump, adjusting engine speed and pump valves, laying hose, and using appropriate nozzles and nozzle adjustment in effective use of water and additives, loading helicopter personnel and cargo considering methods, weight distribution, necessity for securing, total weight, etc. and completes manifests of personnel

and equipment being transported to the fire or other work site. Performs Forestry Technician duties with a variety of hand tools such as an axe, Pulaski, shovel, McLeod and chain saws. Wildland Firefighter Crews often travel throughout California and across the country performing fire suppression and support to other all-risk incidents.

USAJOBS Webpage: [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov)

Applications must be submitted through "USAJOBS" <https://www.usajobs.gov/>. Once you are logged in and have selected which vacancy announcement number you want to apply to, you will be electronically redirected to "eRecruit" which is the Forest Service application database. You will complete the application process within eRecruit.

The GS-0462-05 positions have minimum standards (IFPM – FFT1, S290) to meet and all requirements must be met at the time of hiring.

For more info on IFPM/FSFPM go to: [www.fs.fed.us/fire/management/ifpm/index.html](http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/management/ifpm/index.html)  
<http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/management/ifpm/crosswalk.pdf>

Applicants tentatively selected for these positions will be required to submit a urinalysis to screen for illegal drug use unless they currently occupy a TDP under the DOT/Forest Service Alcohol and Controlled Substances Testing Program. Final appointment is conditional on a negative drug test. Engine positions may require that the selected candidate obtain or possess a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) and therefore, are Testing Designated Positions (TDP) under the Department of Transportation (DOT)/Forest Service Alcohol and Controlled Substance Testing Program.

**\*\*This announcement constitutes 30 days advance notice for drug testing\*\***

### **How to Apply**

Please use the announcement number **17-FIRE-R5SPRINGLM-WFAP-5FS** when searching. If applying to the vacancy announcement, applicants will need to perform the following steps to retrieve the announcement:

1. Go to <https://www.usajobs.gov>.
2. Enter the merit vacancy announcement number into the entry field located mid-page entitled: "Keyword"
3. Click "Search" button after entering location of choice.
4. Located within the box to the left entitled: "Who May Apply" click on the circle to the left of "Federal Employees". This will cause the merit vacancy announcement to appear in the list of results.

Individuals interested in applying to positions under Fire Hire will be utilizing eRecruit through USAJOBS. Forest Service employees applying to any Regional announcement must have a USAJOBS profile created before applying for a position in eRecruit. Information entered into the USAJOBS profile will carry over to eRecruit and avoid duplicate data entry. Additional information on eRecruit or USAJOBS can be found by going to <http://fsweb.asc.fs.fed.us/hrm/erecruit/> and [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov).

Applicants applying to GS-0462-05 positions requiring IFPM must submit a recent copy of their Incident Qualification and Certification System (IQCS) or (IQS) Master Record or equivalent documentation that contains documented 3rd party proof of the NWCG Qualification or Additional Required Training requirement. If the IQCS or IQS Master Record cannot be obtained (or is not used in the case of private sector), the applicant must submit documentation that shows the applicant has attained the required NWCG Qualifications and Training. Submitted documentation must include 3rd party certification (e.g., signature of the certifying official's name, title, contact information, and date of certification). Proof of NWCG qualification includes documentation such as:

- Copy of Position Task Book (PTB) certification page (page 2 only of the PTB) that has been signed and dated by the applicant's certifying official or,
- Screen capture from the IQCS or IQS database showing certification of the required NWCG qualification (i.e., "Incident Qualification Card" tab, "Competency Evaluation" tab, "Qual Card Summary" tab, or "Current Competencies" tab, etc.) AND,

Proof of required NWCG training (if applicable), such as:

- Copy of the required training certificate that is signed and dated by the Lead Instructor or Course Coordinator or,
- Copy of the course completion letter that is signed and dated by the course coordinator that shows successful completion of the NWCG course or,
- Screen capture from IQCS database or IQS showing attainment of the required training (i.e., "Student Training Summary" tab, "Competency Evaluation" tab, "Responder Training" tab, "Current Competencies" tab, etc.).

Applicants with expired NWCG qualifications are still eligible to apply; however, they must attach the above documentation that proves that at one time they were certified in the required NWCG qualification(s) (i.e., expired qualification due to expiration of Work Capacity Test (WCT) or refresher, or expired due to lack of position performance currency).

**Failure to provide the requisite documentation could result in disqualification.**

**Please read the entire announcement and all the instructions before you begin.**

**You must complete the application process and submit all required documents electronically by 8:59 p.m.PT for the Region 5 GS-5 Wildland Fire Apprentices Hire closing date of December 28, 2016.**

**Step1 – Create a USAJOBS account** (if you do not already have one) at [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov). It is recommended that as part of your profile you set up automatic email notification to be informed when the status of your application changes. If you choose not to set up this automatic notification, then you will have to log into your USAJOBS account to check on the status of your application.

**Step 2 - Create a Resume with USAJOBS (Resume Builder)** or upload a Resume into your USAJOBS account. You may want to customize your resume to ensure it documents duties and accomplishments you have gained that are directly related to this position in order to verify that qualifications are met. In addition, your resume must support your responses to the online questionnaire (you may preview the online questionnaire by clicking on the link at the end of the How You Will Be Evaluated section of the job announcement).

**Step 3 - Click "Apply Online"** and follow the prompts to complete the Occupational Questionnaire and attach any and all additional documents that may be required.

You can update your application or documents anytime while the announcement is open. Simply log into your USAJOBS account and click on "Application Status." Click on the position title, and then select "Update Application" to continue.

Any edits, changes, or additional attachments done after December 12<sup>th</sup> will not appear in your printed application.

#### **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:**

The following documents must be submitted to constitute a complete application package. It is your responsibility to ensure that all required documents are received within the required timeframes. Our office cannot be responsible for incompatible software, illegible fax transmissions, delays in the mail service etc. Failure to submit required, legible documents will result in elimination from consideration.

**1. Resume** that includes the following information: 1) job information for which you are applying; 2) personal information; 3) education; 4) work experience; and, 5) other qualifications

**2. IQCS Master Record** – This is a mandatory document if you are a current or former permanent Federal employee applying to the vacancy announcement number that ends with a **G** (merit). If you are not a current or former permanent Federal employee and are applying to the vacancy announcement number that ends with **DP** (demo), you must attach all documentation to verify your qualifications for each position you are applying for.

**3. College Transcripts** if education is required for meeting basic qualifications and/or you are substituting education for specialized experience. An unofficial copy is sufficient with the application; however, if selected, an official college transcript will be required.

**4. SF-50 Notification of Personnel Action** if you are a current or former Federal employee that will verify your federal status, position title, series and grade. FSA County employees must provide the most recent

Notification of Personnel Action (Form SF-50-B or FSA-50) that verifies permanent status. Also provide the SF-50 that reflects the highest grade level held on a permanent basis or the full performance level of your current position, whichever is higher.

**5. Annual Performance Appraisal** if you are a current Federal employee. Submit the most recently completed annual performance appraisal (dated within 18 months) which identifies the employee's official rating of record, signed by the supervisor, or a statement advising why the performance appraisal is unavailable. Do not submit a performance plan.

**6. DD-214 (Member 4 Copy) and/or SF-15 Application for 10-point Veteran Preference** if claiming Veterans' Preference or eligibility for appointment under the VRA, VEOA, or 30% Disabled Veterans hiring authority.

**7. Certification of Disability if you are eligible for appointment based on a disability under the Schedule A hiring authority.** This certification can be documented by a counselor from a State Vocational Rehabilitation Agency or the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Service of the Department of Veterans Affairs; by a statement or letter on a physician/medical professionals' letterhead stationary; or by statements, records, or letters from a Federal Government agency that issues or provides disability benefits. The certification must verify the applicant has a severe disability, is eligible under a Schedule A appointment authority, and he or she is able to perform the essential duties of the position. The certification must also describe any needed reasonable accommodation. You can review additional information at: <https://www.opm.gov/disability/appempl.asp>.

**8.** If you are eligible for appointment based on service in the Peace Corps, Vista, Action Cooperative, or another special authority, submit proof of eligibility.

**9. CTAP/ICTAP** documentation if separated from Federal service or pending separation based on a reduction in force (RIF) or other management workforce reduction action. Proof of eligibility must include a separation notice or Certificate of Expected Separation, SF-50 that documents the RIF separation action or most recent SF-50 (that is not an award), and latest performance appraisal (dated within the last 18 months) or a statement advising why one is unavailable.

**AGENCY CONTACT INFO:**

HRM Contact Center – Albuquerque Service Center, Albuquerque NM

Phone: 877-372-7248 Option 2

Fax: 866-338-3718

TDD: 800-877-8339

Email: [fsjobs@fs.fed.us](mailto:fsjobs@fs.fed.us)



**About the Inyo National Forest**

Located in California's beautiful Eastern Sierra in Inyo and Mono counties, the Inyo National Forest in Mono County is the gateway to Yosemite to the west and to the south in Inyo County is the gateway to Death Valley. Mono/Inyo Counties offers clean air, crystal blue skies, mountain lakes and streams, challenging trails, high mountain peaks, and beautiful views. Inyo County has the lowest and the highest points in the

continental United States. Death Valley National Park (Elevation -282) is 105 miles east and Mt. Whitney (Elevation: 14,497) is 14 miles to the west of Lone Pine. With over two million acres, the Inyo National Forest is home to many natural wonders including Mt. Whitney, Mono Lake, Mammoth Lakes Basin, and the Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest. More than 800,000 acres are in nine Congressionally-designated Wilderness Areas. Diverse geologic features, combined with the elevation extremes produces a wide range of climatic conditions, results in tremendous floristic diversity on the Forest, with vegetation communities ranging from desert scrub, sagebrush scrub, and Pinyon woodland, to Jeffrey pine, Lodgepole pine and alpine habitats. Both counties are high-use recreation-oriented resort areas with a full range of winter and summer outdoor recreation these opportunities include backpacking, fishing, hunting, hang gliding, cross-country skiing, downhill skiing, cycling, mountain biking, photography, rock climbing, and horseback riding.

### **Mono County**

At the north-end of Inyo National Forest in the southern part of Mono County elevation range from 6,800 feet at Lee Vining to 7,800 feet at Mammoth Lakes. In summer, temperatures average 75-85 degrees for a high and seldom drop below 30 degrees. Winter temperatures range from 40 degrees to 0 degrees with mostly sunny skies. Annual snowfall in Lee Vining averages 100 inches and 335 inches at Mammoth Mountain Ski Area. The cost of a three-bedroom house starts at \$250,000+ and rentals range from \$700-3,000 per month. There may be government housing available on the Forest Service Compound in Lee Vining or Mammoth Lakes, CA.

Lee Vining next to Mono Lake is a small community of approximately 400 year-round residents. Lee Vining has limited services including schools K-12, a small market, two churches, one year round restaurant, several motels, one gas/service station, and a hardware store. Housing is limited in Lee Vining but is available in Mono City (10 miles north) or in June Lake (15 miles south). The closest metropolitan areas to the north are Carson City and Reno, Nevada, (approximately 2 to 2.5 hours north).

To the south 30 miles is Mono County's largest community Mammoth Lakes. Mammoth Lakes is a full service community of approximately 5,000 year-round residents. Mammoth Lakes has a full range of schools, including an extension campus of Cerro Coso Community College, a hospital, dentists, stores, churches, and shopping facilities and numerous restaurants. World famous Mammoth Mountain Ski Area is located within the Mammoth District with 3,500 acres of downhill skiing. Yosemite National Park, Devils Postpile National Monument, Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park are all bordering the Mammoth District.

### **Inyo County/Owens Valley**

To the south approximately 45 miles is the Owens Valley elevation ranges from 4,100 to 3,700 feet. Temperatures range from 20 to 105 degrees with approximately 2-6 inches of snow in the winter which melts in a few days. The Valley averages 285 sunny days a year. During the summer months there is an occasional afternoon thundershower and daytime temperatures can be hot. The cost of a three-bedroom house starts at \$250,000+ and rentals range from \$900-1,800 per month.

The White Mountain District and the Forest Supervisor's Offices are located in Bishop at the northern end of the Owens Valley, flanked by the Sierra Nevada Range to the west and the White Mountain Range to the east. Bishop, California offers a full range of services. The population is 4,000 within the City of Bishop and 11,000 within the surrounding areas. Bishop was voted the top place for outdoor recreation in California. There is a public 18-hole golf course.

Medical Services are provided by Northern Inyo Hospital and includes an Intensive Care Unit and 24-hour Emergency Room. Bishop also has five optometrists, two psychiatrists, and six dentists. Bishop has a full range of public and private schools, as well Cerro Coso Community College which offers 4-year degrees through LaVerne and Cal-State Bakersfield. The major retailers are J.C. Penny, K-Mart, Rite-Aid, and Vons. There are many independent merchants throughout Mono and Inyo County which offer a variety of goods and services.

To the south 60 miles is Lone Pine at the southern end of the Inyo National Forest and Owens Valley. This small friendly community of 1,800 has a grocery store, restaurants, and motels. A 24-hour emergency facility provided by Southern Inyo Hospital is located in town. Lone Pine also has a medical and dental clinic. There is a public school for grades K-12 as well as pre-school. There is a year round public 9-hole golf course. The closest metropolitan areas to the south are Los Angeles 225 miles and to the east Las Vegas 250 miles.

For more information about the Inyo National Forest, Mono and Inyo Counties, visit these websites

[www.fs.fed.us/r5/inyo/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/inyo/)  
[www.bishopvisitor.com/](http://www.bishopvisitor.com/)  
[www.monocounty.org/](http://www.monocounty.org/)

[www.inyocounty.us/](http://www.inyocounty.us/)  
[www.visitmammoth.com/](http://www.visitmammoth.com/)  
[www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us](http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us)

