****

OUTREACH NOTICE

**Ochoco National Forest/Paulina Ranger District**

**Biological Technician, GS-0404-06/07**

**PERMANENT SEASONAL 18/8**

The Ochoco National Forest will soon be advertising and filling a Biological Technician position, GS-0404-06/07, stationed in Prineville, Oregon.

The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to inform prospective applicants of this opportunity. Results from this outreach will help inform the advertisement authority (e.g. Merit and/or Demo) and area of consideration. I expect to advertise the position in June or early July of 2018.

Prompt response to this outreach will help ensure you are made aware of the advertisement; you will be notified of the vacancy announcement number and closing date when it becomes available. 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>

If you are interested in this position, please send the outreach response form included at the end of this notice to Gary Asbridge, Paulina District Ranger at gasbridge@fs.fed.us by close of business on **May 25, 2018.**

***THE POSITION:***

**We are looking for an individual who:**

* **Has strong interpersonal skills**
* **Is a good communicator, both written and oral**
* **Is a team player who enjoys working with others to accomplish a common goal**
* **Has a solid foundation in the biological sciences and/or natural resources management with a willingness to learn and expand their horizons**
* **Is a self-starter, enjoys a challenge and is a problem-solver**
* **Has the ability to cope well with changing direction, multiple priorities, and a fast-paced work environment**
* **Has the ability to work well with diverse groups of people**

**Description of Primary Duties:**

This Biological Technician position is supervised by the Paulina Ranger District fisheries biologist and therefore some of the work will be aquatics (fisheries and hydrology) based. However, the incumbent will also provide support to the wildlife, botany, invasive plant, and range program areas. Although the position is stationed on the Paulina Ranger District the incumbent will work across the Ochoco National Forest and Crooked River National Grassland. Duties will be varied and challenging, including:

* Scheduling, organizing, and executing field projects for detecting, identifying and evaluating natural resource issues and opportunities.
* Compiling and summarizing data obtained from biological surveys.
* Drafting summary reports of projects completed, data collected, and other accomplishments.
* Assisting with a variety of restoration projects, including stream and riparian restoration, wildlife habitat restoration, and invasive plant control/eradication.
* Participating in various environmental education programs

**ABOUT THE PRINEVILLE AREA**

The City of Prineville is located 35 miles northeast of Bend and 30 miles southeast of Madras. The major highway through town is US Highway 26. The population is around 9,500 in the city with approximately 23,000 living in the surrounding area. There are numerous facilities in and adjacent to town, including: parks and outdoor recreational areas, a public library, full service medical and dental facilities, a shopping center, two golf courses, and numerous churches of various denominations.

**SCHOOLS:** Crook County School District has eight schools: one high school; one alternative high school and other alternative programs; one middle school; four elementary schools; and one charter school. Central Oregon Community College in Bend offers two-year programs as well as four-year degrees through Oregon State University and the University of Oregon. OSU Crook County Open Campus works to bring educational credit and non-credit classes from Oregon State University, Central Oregon Community College, OSU Cascades, and other institutions of higher education to Crook County.

**HEALTH CARE:** Prineville is home to Pioneer Memorial Hospital, which is a member of the regional St. Charles Healthcare organization. PMH is a fully accredited, critical-access hospital, licensed for 25 beds and capable of handling all routine and emergency medical matters. The hospital offers a comprehensive range of services, including laboratory and diagnostic imaging services. The hospital’s Emergency Department is open 24/7 and rated trauma Level IV. The hospital’s surgery unit and intensive care units are highly skilled and trained. In extreme cases, the hospital works closely with AirLink Critical Care Transport and St. Charles Hospital in Bend. There is also a family birthing center, extended care program, a home health care program and hospice care offered through the hospital. Prineville is also home to two clinics.

**HOUSING:** Rental apartments and houses are available in Prineville. The approximate range for the monthly cost of rentals is $500-$900 for a two bedroom, one bath unit and around $650-$1100 for a three bedroom unit in either duplexes or apartments. The cost for a three bedroom single-family house runs $750/mo. and up.

Prineville is a rapidly growing community with many new subdivisions. The average price for a newer home in Prineville is $190,000 - $320,000, and for a single-family residence on rural acreage $150,000 - $350,000 and up. The value of rural property is determined to a large extent on the availability of water.

**TRAVEL**: Prineville is 18 miles from Robert’s Field, the regional municipal airport in Redmond, OR, which offers daily commercial flights to a variety of locations, including: Portland International Airport (PDX); Seattle International Airport (SEA); San Francisco International Airport (SFO); Denver International Airport (DEN); Salt Lake International Airport (SLC); and Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport (PHX).

Highway 26 passes through Prineville, while nearby Highway 97 offers a north-south corridor linking to Highway 84 in the northern part of the state and to Klamath Falls in the south. Prineville is approximately a three-hour drive from Portland, Salem, Corvallis and Eugene. Access is also easy to Highway 20 which provides access to Burns and eastern Oregon.

**WEATHER**: Crook County enjoys the dry climate of the high desert. Sunny days, low humidity and cool nights characterize the semi-arid climate in the high desert. The temperature can fluctuate more than 30 degrees in one day during the year. Like all of Oregon east of the Cascades, Prineville and Crook County’s weather is generally characterized by bright sunshine, hot days and cool nights in the summer, and sunny days and cool and cold temperatures in the winter. There is approximately 11″ of rainfall and between 9″ to 14″ of snowfall each year. Half of the precipitation falls between the months of October and February, and much of the precipitation is experienced as snow in the higher elevations.

More detailed information about Central Oregon may be obtained from the following websites:

<http://visitprineville.org>

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/centraloregon/>

<http://www.visitbend.com/>

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**OUTREACH RESPONSE FORM**

**Ochoco National Forest/Paulina Ranger District**

**Biological Technician, GS-0404-06/07**

Please complete this form to indicate your interest in the position, and return to Gary Asbridge at gasbridge@fs.fed.us **by close of business** on **May 25, 2018.** Forms may also be mailed to Gary Asbridge at 3160 NE Third St., Prineville, Oregon, 97754 or sent by FAX to #541-416-6695

NAME:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

MAILING ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

AGENCY EMPLOYED WITH:

TYPE OF APPOINTMENT: PERMANENT TEMPORARY TERM VRA PWD OTHER

CURRENT REGION/FOREST/DISTRICT:

CURRENT SERIES AND GRADE:

CURRENT POSITION TITLE:

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 READJUSTMENT

 DISABLED VETERANS W/30% COMPENSABLE DISABILITY

 VETERANS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES ACT OF 1998

 FORMER PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER

 PATHWAYS PROGRAM

 OTHER