

OUTREACH NOTICE

GS 05/07/09 Lead River Checker

Salmon – Challis National Forest

OUTREACH REPLY DUE BY: April 1, 2022



The Salmon-Challis National Forest Recreation Program is outreaching for the following permanent position located in an **AMAZING** part of Idaho and working with both the Wild & Scenic Middle Fork of the Salmon and Salmon River systems.

This notification is being circulated to inform prospective applicants of the opportunity and to determine interest in this position.

To respond to this outreach: Complete the outreach form at the end of this document and provide a brief resume to: Lisa Byers, lisa.m.byers@usda.gov

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions about this position!

GS-05/07/09 Lead River Checker

Series/Grade/Title: GS-0462-05/07/09 Forestry Technician (Recreation), Forestry Technician (Wilderness/Trails) or GS-0301-05/07/09 Recreation Management Specialist

Duty Location: Challis, Salmon, or North Fork, Idaho

Tour of Duty: Permanent Full Time

Position's duties: This position will oversee the river checker programs on both the Middle Fork of the Salmon and Main Salmon River systems. The river checkers throughout the program annually interact with over 25,000 people and issue approximately 1,800 river permits.

Responsibilities would focus on creating consistency within the program, providing customer service, and providing education and interpretation of wilderness ethics and wild and scenic river values to users on these two popularly sought after permitted rivers. The employee in this position would also issue permits, give educational talks, work in the field, and assists at the various boat launch locations when needed.



About the Region:

The Intermountain Region (R4), headquartered in Ogden Utah provides administrative oversight and support to thirteen National Forests and one National Grassland in Utah, Nevada, eastern California, western Wyoming, and southern and central Idaho and covers 31,816,792 acres in the National Forest System. There are approximately 2,200 permanent employees in Region 4.

About the Forest: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/scnf/>

The Salmon-Challis National Forest covers over 4.3 million acres in east-central Idaho. The Forest is bounded by the Bitterroot Range on the Montana border to the east, and to the west includes over 1.3 million acres of the Frank Church—River of No Return Wilderness.

Rugged and remote, this country offers adventure, solitude and breathtaking scenery. Mt. Borah, Idaho's tallest peak, and the Wild & Scenic Salmon River and the Middle Fork of the Salmon River are within the Forest's administrative boundaries. The area is a destination for hunting, fishing, whitewater rafting, and many other popular recreational pursuits. The Forest features diverse, rough topography and geologic conditions, and miles of streams with anadromous fish spawning habitat creating a highly complex land management situation. There are six administrative units on the Forest: Salmon-Cobalt, North Fork and Leadore Ranger Districts (North Zone) and the Challis-Yankee Fork, Lost River, and Middle Fork Ranger Districts (South Zone).

The terrain varies greatly from rolling, arid hills to steep, forested slopes. Solitude, hiking and camping opportunities abound in the Frank Church—River of No Return Wilderness and surrounding mountains. Mountain biking and off-road motorcycle opportunities are plentiful as well. The Forest is well known for its hunting and fishing opportunities.

About the Communities:

North Fork, Idaho:

The North Fork District Office is located in North Fork, Idaho, which is located approximately 22 miles north of Salmon, Idaho, on Highway 93. The community of North Fork has a convenience store, post office, fire station, hotels, and restaurants and serves as the gateway for recreational activities on the Salmon-Challis National Forest along the main Salmon River and into the Frank Church—River of No Return Wilderness. The community of Gibbonsville is located north of North Fork on Highway 93. North Fork Ranger District employees live in North Fork, Gibbonsville, and Salmon. The commute from Salmon to North Fork on Highway 93 is a beautiful drive along the Salmon River.

Salmon, Idaho:

Salmon is the heart of the Salmon River Valley, surrounded by three mountain ranges, situated at the junction of Idaho State Highway 28 and U.S. Highway 93, and at the forks of the Lemhi and Salmon Rivers. The town has a population of about 3,100 and is the seat of Lemhi County which has a population of 8,000. The main industries are ranching, mining, timber, and recreation. Salmon is known as the "White Water Capital of the World" serving as the hub of personal and outfitter, jet boat and rafting river activities. At 4,000 feet elevation, the surrounding terrain varies greatly from rolling, arid hills to steep, forested slopes.

Climate: Salmon enjoys a dry, warm climate during the summer and fall months with daily highs averaging between 75 to 95 degrees, and nightly lows from 45 to 60 degrees. The climate in winter is ideal for snow sports, the lowest temperatures averaging from 14 to 25 degrees with occasional sub-zero readings.

Shopping and Services: Salmon is a self-contained community with a full variety of shopping, business, medical, and professional services. In addition to basic services, there are a variety of specialty shops and art galleries. Salmon also has nursing and residential care facilities, hospice, and a spectrum of social services. Also, most service clubs and associations are represented. The public library offers computer and other services.

Medical: The City of Salmon has a local 30-bed community hospital affiliated with the major hospital of Missoula, Montana, and provides Life-Flight helicopter, EMT, Search and Rescue units, physicians, dentists, optometrists, and also specialist affiliations with the Western Montana Medical Clinic.

Schools: A variety of pre-schools and day-care centers are available in addition to the elementary, junior, and senior high schools. The schools offer numerous extra-curricular activities and sports, and strive for quality education with creative, athletic, and scholastic achievements. Adult education classes are also offered yearly.

Transportation: The Salmon Valley Airport provides charter services, is equipped with night-lights, and can accommodate executive jets and other small aircraft. Major commercial airports are located within 160 miles.

Housing: There are four motels in Salmon and various bed and breakfast accommodations in the surrounding vicinity. A typical three-bedroom house costs \$150,000 and up. Monthly rental for a typical three-bedroom home runs around \$700. Several real estate offices are available. There are also mobile home parks and two in-city campgrounds.

Churches: Salmon has an active church community, school, and fourteen churches representing a large variety of denominations.

Entertainment and Activities: A wide assortment of entertainment is provided by various organizations throughout the year. The Salmon Arts Council provides events for the community presenting a wide range of performers in music, theater, and dance, visual art shows and sales, artist workshops, juried art exhibitions, and other programs for the local schools. The Sacajawea Center offers numerous historical programs and activities. Other celebrations include the Salmon Marathon, the Spokes and Chrome Car Show, Fourth of July Salmon River Days, Lil' Britches Rodeo and the Lemhi County Fair. Salmon also has numerous restaurants, a movie theater, and a fitness center. Recreation facilities include a nine-hole golf course, tennis courts, bowling alley, baseball diamonds and an outdoor community swimming pool.

Challis, Idaho:

Challis, Idaho (www.challisidaho.com) is located along the Salmon River Scenic Byway at an elevation of 5,253 feet in the mountains of central Idaho. The city has a population of approximately 1,000 and is the seat of Custer County which has a population of 4,300.

Climate: Challis enjoys a dry, warm climate during the summer and fall months with daily highs

averaging between 75 to 95 degrees, and nightly lows from 45 to 60 degrees. The climate in winter is ideal for snow sports, the lowest temperatures averaging from 14 to 25 degrees with occasional sub-zero readings. Annual precipitation averages around 7 inches.

Shopping and Services: The Challis community has a full variety of shopping and business services in addition to specialty shops. There is a full-service bank, a credit union, a Post Office, and a public library.

Medical: The Challis Area Health Center has x-ray and laboratory facilities, an emergency room, ambulance and Life-Flight helicopter capabilities. Additional medical services are provided by specialists who regularly visit the clinic. There is a physician assistant, a dentist, an optometrist, and two chiropractic doctors. The area has 24 hour 911 and EMT service. Several hospitals are located within 60 to 200 miles.

Schools: Present enrollment is about 500 students. Teacher/student ratios are 1:23 in the elementary school and 1:16 at the junior/senior high school. Each school has an up-to-date computer lab and there are computers in each classroom. The school district is accredited and has a 2A rating for athletics. The school offers numerous sports, music and academic extracurricular activities.

Transportation: There is a small airport with charter flights available. Three major airports are within 200 miles.

Housing: There are four motels in Challis and several bed and breakfast lodgings. Housing prices range from \$60,000 to over \$200,000. Several real estate offices are available. Mobile home parks provide additional accommodations. Rental properties are typically limited. Government housing may be available on a temporary basis.

Churches: Challis has an active church community with several churches representing a variety of denominations.

Entertainment and Activities: The Challis Arts Council, a non-profit organization, sponsors professional high-quality artistic events for the community. The city park is an excellent facility with tennis courts, picnic pavilion, playground equipment, amphitheatre, horseshoe pits and ball field. There is a nine-hole golf course, and a bowling alley with league play available for all ages and also an additional game area. The community supports a popular Farmer's Market during the summer. The Forest Service has an exercise room, and there is also a commercial gym business. The privately-owned Challis Hot Springs, approximately seven miles from Challis, offers year-round swimming in two pools with a natural flow from the hot springs.

Recreation within the region: The Salmon River and the Middle Fork of the Salmon River, federally protected as Wild and Scenic Rivers, are renowned for white-water rafting, kayaking, floating, fishing, and jet boating. Outfitter and guide services are offered and both Salmon and Challis serve as gateways to the Frank Church—River of No Return Wilderness, encompassing 2.4 million acres, the largest wilderness in the United States outside of Alaska. The primitive mountain areas provides spectacular and abundant hunting (white-tailed and mule deer, elk, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, bear, moose, and cougar). Many species of game birds and waterfowl can also be found. Fishing (trout and steelhead) is open virtually all year. Miles of groomed trails and routes are prepared for cross-country skiing and snowmobiling while down hill skiing, ice fishing and other winter fun can be enjoyed nearby.

Outreach Response Form

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If you are interested in this opportunity please return a completed Outreach Response Form by **February 7, 2021** along with a brief resume to: lisa.m.byers@usda.gov

Your Name: _____ Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

If Current Federal Employee, Agency Employed With: ___USFS, ___BLM, ___OTHER_____

If Current Federal Employee, Type of Appointment: ___Perm ___Temp ___Term
___VRA ___PWD ___Other

Current FS Employee, Region/Forest/District: _____

Current Series and Grade: _____

Current Position Title: _____

Please briefly describe your qualifications/interest for this position: _____

How did you learn of this vacancy? _____



Thank you for your interest and response!