



GS-0462-03 thru GS-0462-8 Updated duty locations and announcements

The Ouachita/Ozark - St. Francis National Forests are looking for committed, hardworking, and a highly skilled workforce to suppress wildfires and work in fuels management. There are 11 different duty locations, nine locations in Arkansas which are Mena, Mt. Ida, Waldron, Jessieville, Clarksville, Ozark, Paris, Hector, and Mountain View and two locations in Oklahoma which are Broken Bow and Hodgen/Big Cedar. The fire and aviation management programs are very rewarding and requires talented people working safely as part of a team in a variety of specialized positions including dispatch, engine crews, fire & fuels management, dozer operators, and helitack crews. The Fire Hire program is being utilized to streamline the hiring process for permanent fire positions and provide consistent hiring around the Region and throughout the agency. This hiring process assists the national forests in the Southern Region to fill vacancies in a more efficient and timely manner.

This outreach is for GS-0462-03 through GS-0462-8 career permanent full-time fire positions. These positions potentially will be eligible to be included in the GS-0456 Wildland Firefighter job series implementation. The vacancy announcements for these positions will be posted on the U.S. Government's official website for employment opportunities at <https://www.usajobs.gov>. These are regional vacancy announcements with a specific opening and closing date. The dates vary according to GS level. The vacancy announcements will be open for applications for GS-6 and below between September 9th - September 28th, GS-7 and above between September 19th - September 29th. Those who wish to be considered for these positions are highly encouraged to respond to this outreach notice by September 7th, 2022.*

Please respond to the outreach if you are interested in filling a vacant position through the Fire Hire process. Your response is important. Please address your outreach response to the contact listed for each location by September 7th, 2022. Additional information about the position is available from the direct supervisor information next to each vacant position.

***Note:** You must also go apply for the position through [USAJobs.gov](https://www.usajobs.gov) during the open period.

Important Dates:

GS-7 and Above (Non Centralized Hiring Event: Phase 1 (of 4))

- **September 19, 2022** - Vacancy Announcements activated in [USAJobs](#).
- **September 29, 2022** – Application deadline, 11:59 p.m. EST.
- **October 18, 2022 – November 1, 2022** – Reference Checks, Interviews, and Tentative Selections

Current vacancies on the Ouachita/Ozark – St. Francis National Forests GS-7 and above						
Announcement #: N/A						
# of Positions Vacant	District	GS Level	Position	Duty Station	Tour of Duty	Local Contact
1	Caddo/Womble RD	GS 7/8	Supervisory Fire Engine Operator (SFEO)	Mt. Ida, AR	PFT 26/0	Justus Beggs justus.beggs@usda.gov 870-867-2101
1	Poteau/Cold Springs RD	GS 7/8	Supervisory Fire Engine Operator (SFEO)	Waldron, AR	PFT 26/0	Raymond Self raymond.self@usda.gov 479-637-4174
1	Pleasant Hill RD	GS 7/8	Supervisory Fire Engine Operator (SFEO)	Clarksville, AR	PFT 26/0	Cory Highfill cory.highfill@usda.gov 479-754-2864
1	Mt. Magazine RD	GS 7/8	Supervisory Fire Engine Operator (SFEO)	Paris, AR	PFT 26/0	Chad Lunsford chad.lunsford@usda.gov 479-963-3076

Important Dates:

GS-6 and Below (Centralized Hiring Event)

Note: **Centralized Hiring Event** = Applicants are encouraged to apply for multiple locations (where they would accept a position if offered), even if positions for certain locations in which you are interested are not listed as vacant. Vacancies may occur during the hiring process and could be filled during Selection Week.

- **September 9, 2022** - Vacancy Announcements activated in [USAJobs](#).
- **September 28, 2022** – Application deadline, 11:59 p.m. EST.
- **October 24, 2022 – November 18, 2022** – Reference Checks, Interviews, and Tentative Selections

Assistant Fire Engine Operator (AFEO)

***Current vacancies are highlighted in yellow, all else are potential backfill positions**

Assistant Fire Engine Operator (AFEO)-GS-0462-5/6				
Announcement #: N/A				
# of Positions Vacant	Forest	Duty Station	Tour of Duty	Local Contact
1/1	Ouachita National Forest	Broken Bow, OK	PFT	Jesse Nichols, 530-335-7266, jesse.a.nichols@usda.gov
1/1	Ouachita National Forest	Hodgen, OK	PFT	Anthony Ashalintubbi, 501-617-2965, anthony.ashalintubbi@usda.gov
0/1	Ouachita National Forest	Waldron, AR	PFT	Raymond Self, 501-574-8736, raymond.self@usda.gov

1/1	Ouachita National Forest	Jessieville, AR	PFT	Derrick Orrell, 479-886-5385, derrick.orrell@usda.gov
0/1	Ouachita National Forest	Mount Ida, AR	PFT	Justus Beggs, 870-867-7159, justus.beggs@usda.gov
1/1	Ouachita National Forest	Mena, AR	PFT	Adam Strothers, 479-216-0129, adam.strothers@usda.gov
1/1	Ozark-St. Francis National Forest	Clarksville, AR	PFT	Cory Highfill, 479-754-2864, cory.highfill@usda.gov
0/1	Ozark-St. Francis National Forest	Hector, AR	PFT	Lance Robinson, 208-677-8296, lance.robinson@usda.gov
0/1	Ozark-St. Francis National Forest	Ozark, AR	PFT	Heath Thomas, 501-208-7077, michael.h.thomas@usda.gov
0/1	Ozark-St. Francis National Forest	Mountain View, AR	PFT	Brian Sullivan, 870-269-3228, brian.k.sullivan@usda.gov
0/1	Ozark-St. Francis National Forest	Paris, AR	PFT	Heath Thomas, 501-208-7077, michael.h.thomas@usda.gov

Engine Senior Fire Fighter

***Current vacancies are highlighted in yellow, all else are potential backfill positions**

Senior Firefighter (SRFF Engine)-GS-0462-4/5				
Announcement #: N/A				
# of Positions Vacant	Forest	Duty Station	Tour of Duty	Local Contact
1/1	Ouachita National Forest	Broken Bow, OK	PFT	Jesse Nichols, 530-335-7266, jesse.a.nichols@usda.gov
1/1	Ouachita National Forest	Hodgen, OK	PFT	Anthony Ashalintubbi, 501-617-2965, anthony.ashalintubbi@usda.gov
0/1	Ouachita National Forest	Waldron, AR	PFT	Raymond Self, 501-574-8736, raymond.self@usda.gov
0/1	Ouachita National Forest	Jessieville, AR	PFT	Derrick Orrell, 479-886-5385, derrick.orrell@usda.gov
0/1	Ouachita National Forest	Mount Ida, AR	PFT	Justus Beggs, 870-867-7159, justus.beggs@usda.gov
1/1	Ouachita National Forest	Mena, AR	PFT	Adam Strothers, 479-216-0129, adam.strothers@usda.gov
1/1	Ozark-St. Francis National Forest	Clarksville, AR	PFT	Cory Highfill, 479-754-2864, cory.highfill@usda.gov
0/1	Ozark-St. Francis National Forest	Hector, AR	PFT	Lance Robinson, 208-677-8296, lance.robinson@usda.gov
1/1	Ozark-St. Francis National Forest	Ozark, AR	PFT	Heath Thomas, 501-208-7077, Michael.h.thomas@usda.gov
0/1	Ozark-St. Francis National Forest	Mountain View, AR	PFT	Brian Sullivan, 870-269-3228, brian.k.sullivan@usda.gov
0/1	Ozark-St. Francis National Forest	Paris, AR	PFT	Heath Thomas, 501-208-7077, michael.h.thomas@usda.gov

Wildland Fire Apprentice (WFAP), GS-3/4/5

***Current vacancies are highlighted in yellow, all else are potential backfill positions**

Wildland Fire Apprentice (WFAP), GS-3/4/5				
Announcement #: N/A				
# of Positions Vacant	Forest	Duty Station	Tour of Duty	Local Contact
1/1	Ouachita National Forest	Broken Bow, OK	PFT	Jesse Nichols, 530-335-7266, jesse.a.nichols@usda.gov

0/1	Ouachita National Forest	Hodgen, OK	PFT	Anthony Ashalintubbi, 501-617-2965, anthonyv.ashalintubbi@usda.gov
1/1	Ouachita National Forest	Waldron, AR	PFT	Raymond Self, 501-574-8736, raymond.self@usda.gov
0/1	Ouachita National Forest	Jessieville, AR	PFT	Derrick Orrell, 479-886-5385, derrick.orrell@usda.gov
1/1	Ouachita National Forest	Mount Ida, AR	PFT	Justus Beggs, 870-867-7159, justus.beggs@usda.gov
0/1	Ouachita National Forest	Mena, AR	PFT	Adam Strothers, 479-216-0129, adam.strothers@usda.gov

Note: Interagency Fire Program Management (IFPM) and Forest Service – Fire Program Management (FS-FPM) qualifications must be met prior to vacancy closing date.

A current copy of your IQCS Master Record will be required for most positions in this outreach because of the qualification requirements.

How to Apply:

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

You must complete the application process and submit all required documents electronically by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) on the cut-off date or closing date of the announcement. Assistance is available during business hours (normally 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Monday - Friday). Applying online is highly encouraged. If applying online poses a hardship, please contact FS HRM Contact Center Phone: 877-372-7248 Option 2 well before the closing date for an alternate method. All hardship application packages with supporting documents must be received no later than noon on the closing date of the announcement in order to be entered into the system prior to its closing. This agency provides reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities on a case-by-case basis. Please contact FS HRM Contact Center if you require this for any part of the application and hiring process.

Step1 – Create a USAJOBS account

(If you do not already have one) at 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 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"

Follow the prompts to complete the Occupational Questionnaire and attach any 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.

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, delays in the mail service etc. Failure to submit required, legible documents will result in elimination from consideration.

- **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 (including IQCS Master Record).

- **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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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: [Federal Employment of People with Disabilities](#).
- **Proof of Eligibility** if you are eligible for appointment based on service in the Peace Corps, Vista, Action Cooperative, or another special authority.
- **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.
- **IQCS Master Record** showing your training and qualifications for the position. If an IQCS Master Record is not available, some form of documented proof of training and qualifications will be needed for most positions.

NOTE: If a document is resubmitted, it replaces the previous submission, which means the previous document is no longer available to the Human Resources Office. If you are adding to, rather than replacing a previous submission, you must upload both the old document and the new document.

Agency Contact Information:***HRM Contact Center***

Phone: 877-372-7248 Option 2

TDD: 800-877-8339

Email: fsjobs@usda.gov

Agency Information: USDA Forest Service

Do not mail in applications. See instructions on How to Apply.

Things to keep in mind when applying:

- ☐ Vacancy Announcements on USAJobs will give examples of the specialized experience for each position advertised. Ensure your resume matches the listed specialized experience requirement in plain language. This should be listed under a work experience that shows title, series, grade and time period performed so that HR can properly credit. Ensure all SF-50's showing on-boarding /off-boarding and performance for each time period or statement as to why missing that time period is properly loaded into USA Jobs.
- ☐ Ensure all required documents listed in the vacancy announcement are attached to your application.
- ☐ Allow yourself plenty of time to apply for positions. The eRecruit system closes all announcements at midnight Eastern on closing date.
- ☐ Print and read the entire vacancy announcement to ensure you have included all required information and documents.
- ☐ Ensure you have a current IQCS Master Record (For Fire Positions Only)

Other places to have questions answered or get further information:

- ☐ FS Videos: [Welcome to the Forest Service: Applying for a Job](#)
- ☐ Search "Land Management" on www.USAJOBS.gov to find more information about the LMWFA Hiring Authority.
- ☐ USAJobs YouTube videos: [How to Apply for Federal Jobs](#)
- ☐ Information about different positions. [Careers in Wildland Fire](#)
- ☐ Wildland Fire Apprenticeship Program information: [Wildland Firefighter Apprentices](#)

ABOUT THE FORESTS

The [Ouachita](#) and [Ozark/St. Francis](#) National Forests encompass approximately 3 million acres in parts of western Arkansas and eastern Oklahoma. The Ozark NF and Ouachita NF are mostly divided by the Arkansas River while the St. Francis NF is located southwest of Memphis, TN along the Mississippi River. The Forests are chocked full of recreational opportunities such as hunting, fishing, hiking, camping, biking, boating, swimming, etc.

The fire management organization is shared between the Forests. There are nine district fire management organizations, two helibases, an interagency dispatch center, and Cass Job Corps Center. In a typical year, the prescribed burn program averages over 200,000 acres annually.

Ouachita National Forest

The Ouachita National Forest, is located in the Ouachita Mountains of Arkansas and Oklahoma and encompasses approximately 1.8 million acres. The Forest was established in 1907, it is the oldest and one of the largest southern forests. The Forest draws nearly 3 million visitors from the surrounding states who enjoy coming to the mountains for outdoor recreation. The Forest's recreation opportunities include 35 developed recreation areas, 6 wilderness areas, 2 wild and scenic rivers, 2 scenic byways, the Winding Stairs National Recreation Area, the Ouachita National Recreation Trail, 11 shooting ranges, many historical sites, and 900+ miles of trail.

Ozark/St. – Francis National Forest

The Ozark National Forest is located in northwest Arkansas while the St. Francis National Forest is located in east central Arkansas, combined they comprise approximately 1.2 million acres of forested land. The Forest was established in 1908, and at the time it was the only major hardwood timberland under governmental protection. It is home to over 500 species of trees and woody plants. Hardwoods, predominantly oak and hickory, comprise the majority of the forest. The recreational opportunities consist of 23 developed campgrounds, 9 swimming areas, 5 wilderness areas, 395 miles of hiking trails, and 370 miles of streams for fishing. The highest point in Arkansas, Mount Magazine, is also located on the Forest. It is also home to the only tourist cave owned by the USFS, Blanchard Springs.



TO SHARE INTEREST IN THIS POSITION:

- 1) 'Respond' to the notice in the Outreach Database
- 2) Email your resume and the completed outreach form (below) to the local contact listed on Page 2
- 3) In the subject line please reference the position title you are interested in

For more information about this opportunity, please **contact the individual listed on Page 2 for the specific job you are interested in.**

When available, the vacancy announcement for this position will be advertised on <https://www.usajobs.gov/>.

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CONTACT INFORMATION:						
Date:						
Name:						
Email:						
Mailing Address:						
Phone:						
CURRENT EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION:						
Are you currently a Federal Employee	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>				
Current Agency	Specify:					
Current Appointment	Permanent <input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary <input type="checkbox"/>	Term <input type="checkbox"/>	VRA <input type="checkbox"/>	Pathways <input type="checkbox"/>	Other
Current Title/Series/Grade						
Current Location (Region/Forest/District) (City, State)						

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION:	
DO YOU QUALIFY FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	VRA – Veterans Recruitment Appointment Authority <i>(disabled veterans, veterans who served in a declared war, or in a campaign for which a campaign badge has been authorized, or awarded an Armed Forces Service Medal, and separated from active duty in the past 3 years)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prior AmeriCorps/VISTA <i>(persons are granted a one-year period to be non-competitively appointed to a normally competitive Federal position after leaving the Peace Corps or AmeriCorps VISTA with a certification of eligibility)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	30% Disabled Veterans Appointing Authority <i>(disabled veterans who were retired from active military service with a 30% or more disability rating; disabled veterans rated by the Veterans Affairs as having a compensable service-connected disability of 30% or more)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prior Peace Corps <i>(former Peace Corps volunteers who have satisfactorily completed 3 years of continuous service into career or career-conditional permanent positions)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Schedule A Disabled Persons Hiring Authority <i>(persons with physical or mental disabilities certified by the Veterans Administration or a State Rehabilitation Agency as eligible)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reinstatement Rights <i>(agencies may reappoint people previously employed under a career or career-conditional appointment by reinstatement to a competitive service position)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pathways Student Hiring Authority <i>(Internship Program: current students in an accredited high school, college [including 4-year colleges/universities, community colleges, and junior colleges]; professional, technical, vocational, and trade school; advanced degree programs; or other qualifying educational institution pursuing a qualifying degree or certificate; Recent Grads Program: recent graduates who have completed, within the previous two years, a qualifying associates, bachelors, masters, professional, doctorate, vocational or technical degree or certificate from a qualifying educational institution)</i>
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - BRIEFLY DESCRIBE WHY YOU WILL BE A QUALITY CANDIDATE FOR THIS POSITION: (OPTIONAL):	