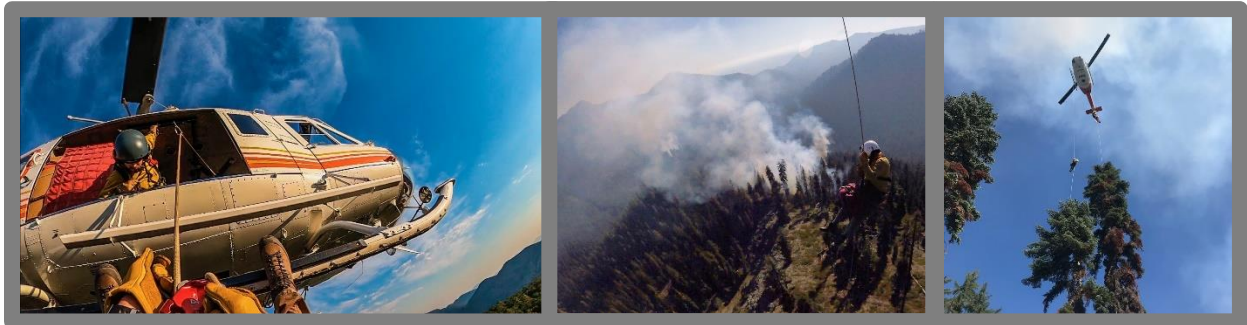


Employment Outreach



USDA Forest Service
Intermountain Region (R-4)
Payette National Forest

The Price Valley Heli-Rappel Crew is seeking applicants for several 1039 Temporary positions for the upcoming 2024 Fire Season. Traditionally, we also negotiate details for permanent Forest Service employees looking to advance and grow their aviation experience on a helitack crew with rappel capabilities.

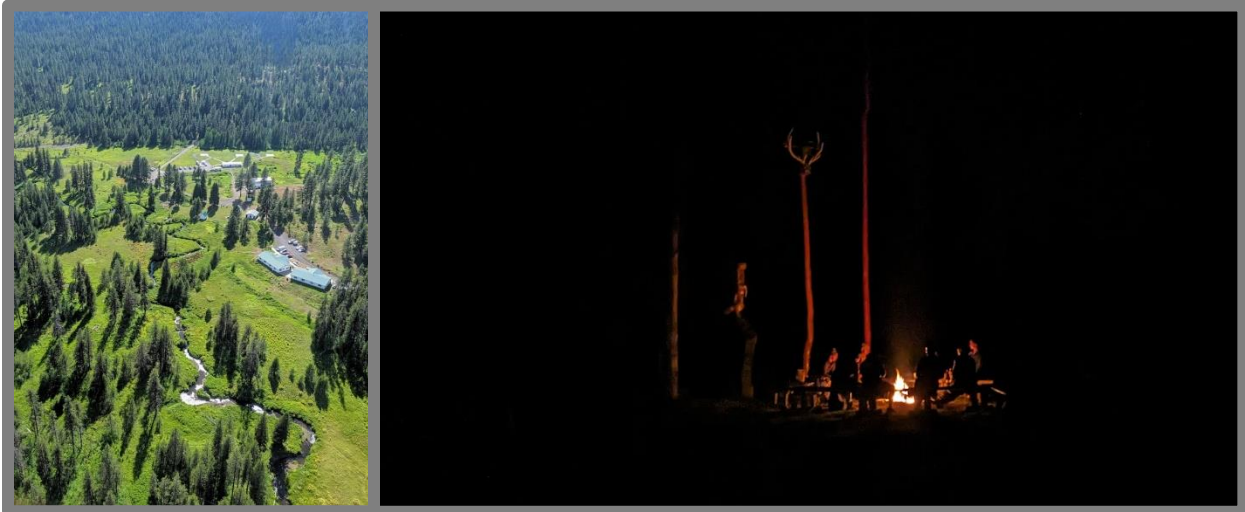


Who We Are:

The Price Valley Heli-Rappel Crew is a highly skilled, wildfire initial attack and large fire support organization. We employ up to 30 people annually. Our permanent staff consists of two Crew Supervisors, two Assistant Crew Supervisors, four GS-6/7 Squad Leaders, and eight GS-5 Senior Firefighters. The remaining positions are Temporary Seasonal Firefighters filled at the GS-4 and GS-5 level. We contract two Type-2 rappel-capable helicopters from mid- May through early October. The primary mission of both forest-based helicopters is initial attack and large fire support across the region and nation. The helicopters and crew also participate in a variety of project work throughout the season. Projects range from flying supplies to remote lookouts, performing aerial recon, or slinging materials to remote sites for trail work, etc.

Seasonal employees generally begin work around the beginning of May. All rookie rappeller candidates can expect to spend the first 5 weeks in a variety of required training including: Chainsaw Use, Fire Refresher, First Aid/CPR, and S-271 Interagency Helicopter Crewmember Training. The second week, rookies are immersed in a "mountain" environment where they are assessed on mental fortitude and physical adaptability. This training culminates in candidates attending the USFS National Rappel Academy. This performance-based training must be passed as outlined in the National Standards for Rappel Operations (NSRO) to be qualified as a

rappeller. If an individual cannot complete this training, they will be removed from the Price Valley program. Additionally, the Payette Fire organization holds a variety of fire training classes during May. Price Valley Crewmembers are enrolled in as many of these classes as possible during this time. Other training is picked up during the season as time permits. Our fire season typically winds down in late September. However, we will often continue to employ seasonals well into October/November as needed for fire support and as forest project work dictates.



Price Valley Helibase is located at the historic Price Valley Guard Station, 12 miles west of New Meadows, Idaho. New Meadows is in West Central Idaho, 20 minutes from McCall and 2.5 hours north of Boise. We have two, 4 room bunkhouses available for seasonal employees and detailers. The surrounding area offers a great number of recreational opportunities. There are numerous trails for hiking and mountain bike riding. The New Meadows area also offers a variety of rivers and lakes for fishing, boating, rafting, and kayaking.

What We Are Looking For:

We fill seasonal positions with highly motivated, independent, and experienced firefighters. At a minimum, candidates shall have at least one season working for a resource management agency exclusively in fire. Competition for these positions is high. Most individuals hired have four to eight seasons in fire on IHC or hand crews and display numerous fire qualifications (i.e. EMT, FAL2, FFT1, ICT5, HECM).

Price Valley Rappellers maintain a consistent and vigorous physical training program. We recognize the effort required to achieve and maintain necessary physical fitness cannot be accomplished during the fire season alone; a year-round approach to comprehensive fitness is necessary. It is expected each employee maintains physical fitness through the year to begin each season physically fit and ready to work. The fire season is not the time to prepare but the time to demonstrate how you have prepared for the season.

To assess an individual's physical readiness, we will use the BLM fitness challenge to evaluate personal fitness. This test will be administered for every employee at the start of and periodically throughout the season. The benchmark for each test will be the desired fitness goals address in Chapter 3 of the NSRO. These are listed below:

- **1.5 Mile Run** 11:00 minutes or less
- **Pull-ups** 7
- **Push-ups** 25 in 1 minute

Possibly the most demanding aspect of being a rappeller is the pack out. Rappellers are often put into remote locations and expected to be able to pack themselves and their equipment (up to 110 lbs.) out to the nearest road or pickup point. On the Payette NF, pack-outs of 8-12 miles are not uncommon. To assess an individual's readiness to safely complete these packouts, all Price Valley rappellers will complete a typical terrain 85# packout. This is usually completed as a crew in the first week of training.



Candidates should expect to PT once or twice daily during the first three weeks of the season, and 1 to 1½ hours daily for the rest of the year. All applicants are encouraged to exceed these minimum assessments.

WE CANNOT EXPRESS ENOUGH THE IMPORTANCE OF SHOWING UP IN GOOD SHAPE.



How to Apply:

If you are interested in a seasonal position with the Price Valley Heli-Rappel Crew, you must apply through USAJOBS (see announcement numbers listed below) before 12:00 Eastern Time on 11/8/2023. We hire either GS- 4 or GS-5 positions based on qualifications. We anticipate a referral list in mid-December. Competition for these positions can be very stiff. It would be to your advantage to call us as well as email a copy of your resume and the attached outreach response form. This way we can keep you updated on any changes to position vacancy numbers and job open and closing date.



Announcement Numbers

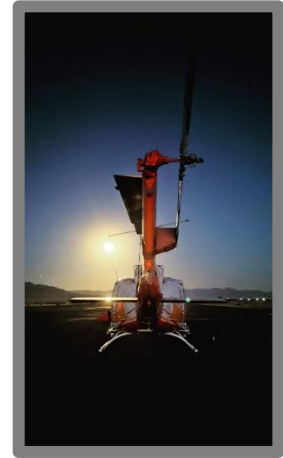
(Open October 26, 2023 - November 8, 2023)

www.USAJobs.gov

GS-4 Temporary Seasonal: **24-TEMPF3-R4-0003-DH**

GS-5 Temporary Seasonal: **24-TEMPF3-R4-0200-DH**

Must select the duty location: New Meadows ID



For more information or to schedule a base visit,
please contact Price Valley's Helitack Supervisors:

Andy Guest

andy.guest@usda.gov

Chad Walker

chad.walker2@usda.gov

Price Valley Helibase (208) 347-0327 (April-October)

New Meadows RD (208) 347-0318 or 0306 (November- March)

Outreach Response Form

(reply to our outreach form here)

