

VACANCY NOTICE

PAYETTE NATIONAL FOREST

REGION 4 – INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

Job Title: Zone Fishery Biologist

Series/Grade: GS-0482-9/11

Open Continuous Vacancy: ADS08-FSJOBS(FishBio)-0044G&DP

Apply By: February 2, 2010

The Council Ranger District, Payette National Forest, is planning to fill one GS-0482-9/11, Zone Fishery Biologist position. Duty station is at the Council Ranger District located in Council, Idaho. Government housing is not available. This position will be responsible for the fisheries program management on both the Council and Weiser Ranger Districts.

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

- Provides expertise and assistance in fishery resource management, including analysis of data as member of an ID Team.
- Conducts fisheries monitoring for assigned projects, providing reports as required.
- Provides advice and develops plans related to the protection and management of aquatic resources including fish passage, stream inventory, stream productivity, stream utilization, physical and biological characteristics, endangered or sensitive species, and habitat improvement or rehabilitation programs.
- Studies and plans proposed management activities and coordinates with, and/or implements the Payette National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan.
- Assists in the development of current and out-year work programs and associated budget proposals for the fishery program. Pursues partnerships and funding opportunities outside of the agency.

The Council District is looking for a highly motivated, career oriented individual for this position. Please circulate this notice to all candidates.

INTERESTED?

Interested applicants should contact Greg Lesch, District Ranger, at glesch@fs.fed.us or by phone at (208) 253-0101, or Melanie Vining, Hydrologist,

at mlvining@fs.fed.us or by phone at (208) 253-0131. The web page address for the Payette National Forest is: www.fsweb.payette.r4.fs.fed.us.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The vacancy announcement for this position is posted on the U.S. Government's official website for employment opportunities at, www.usajobs.gov under vacancy announcement **ADS08-FSJOBS(FishBio)-0044G&DP**. Choose **Council, Idaho** as the duty location. This is an Open Continuous vacancy announcement with no closing date. Those who wish to be considered for this position must apply to the vacancy announcement by **February 2, 2010**. The referral list for this position will be issued to the selecting official on **February 3, 2010**. All applicants who have applied to the announcement on or before the listed dates and are found to be qualified and in the quality group will be referred for consideration.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for this position are being processed through an on-line applicant assessment system at AVUEDigitalServices.com that has been specifically configured for USDA Forest Service applicants. Even if you have already developed a resume in USAJOBS, you will need to access and complete an application using the AVUE Digital Services application process. Interested individuals should first create and/or update their virtual resume and profile in AVUEDigitalServices.com prior to the expiration of the application process. Interested external (civilian) applicants will apply via AVUE Digital Services under vacancy announcement, **ADS08-FSJOBS(FishBio)-0044DP**. Internal (merit status) employees will apply via AVUE under vacancy announcement **ADS08-FSJOBS(FishBio)-0044G**. Follow the hyperlinks listed in the vacancy announcement at the USAJOBS website under "JOB SUMMARY". During the application process within AVUE, applicants need be sure to select "**Council, ID**" from the "**Preferred Location**" screen within the "**Applicant Information**" page. Please ensure your application is posted and current in AVUE by **5 PM, February 2, 2010**. The referral list is expected to be pulled on **February 3, 2010**.

DISTRICT AND COMMUNITY INFORMATION:

The Payette National Forest encompasses 2.3 million acres of rugged, timbered, and remote land in west-central Idaho, and is bordered by two of the deepest canyons in North America—the Salmon River Canyon on the north and Hells Canyon of the Snake River on the west. Tall mountains, deep canyons, sub alpine meadows, rivers and streams, high mountain lakes, and wilderness, characterize the diversity of the Payette National Forest. An extensive system of Forest roads and trails provide access to these diverse areas. This access, combined with the diverse ecosystems, offers many opportunities for recreation and tourism on the Forest.

Council is a community of approximately 1,100 people located in a large picturesque valley with timbered slopes on each side. Elk, mule deer, black bears, whitetail deer, turkeys, and grouse are abundant. Hunting is excellent. Other recreation opportunities popular in the surrounding area include both alpine and Nordic skiing, snowshoeing, rafting and boating, hiking (the Weiser River Rails-to-Trails system runs through town) , camping, wilderness use, riding, fishing, four-wheeling and rodeo. The spectacular Hells Canyon Recreation Area is adjacent to the district, with the Salmon River canyon and Payette River nearby. Long warm summers and pleasant falls typify the climate. Snow is common from November through March. The elevation in Council is 3000 feet. Elevations on the District range from 1700 to 9000 feet.

Council is a county seat and has two grocery stores, a bank, several restaurants, modern schools, beauty shops, a hardware store, several espresso shops, and many other small businesses. Medical services include a medical clinic, dental office and Life Flight. Council supports 5 churches. Cable television and Internet service are available in Council. Home prices are reasonable, with 2-3 bedroom homes starting at around \$125,000 and bare land available for building ranging from 0.25-over 100 acres. A few rental homes are available and prices vary greatly, generally from 450.00-750.00/month. Government housing is not available. Council is about 80 miles from Ontario, Oregon and 120 miles from Boise. These cities offer excellent shopping, entertainment, restaurants, and other services.

Council is a community with an economy based on ranching and timber management. There is a strong, positive community spirit. It is a traditional small western town where activities center on families, holidays, school and church activities, rodeos, and outdoor recreation.

For more information contact the Council Chamber of Commerce at:
<http://www.councilchamberofcommerce.com/index.htm>

Communities close to Council include New Meadows and McCall to the north and Cambridge, Midvale, and Weiser to the south. All are within an hour's drive of Council.

McCall, located in Valley County, lies 40 miles northwest of Council on State Highway 55. At elevation 5,000 feet, it occupies the south shore of beautiful Payette Lake. The population swells from 2,700 in the winter to 10-20,000 in the summer. Snow usually stays November through April. Total snowfall is over 10 feet, but less than 5 feet are on the ground at a time. Summer is ideal; 70-80s, a few days in the 90s. Sunshine is common in all seasons.

McCall is a full-service community that fills most needs. It has a regional hospital, a medical clinic, an integrative health clinic, dentists, chiropractors, and

optometrists. Numerous churches are located in the surrounding area. McCall also has several service stations, two grocery stores, motels, banks, lumber yards, restaurants, sports club, several espresso shops, clothing stores, book store, library, ice skating rink, golf courses, tennis courts, health food store, and an airport. There is a Forest sponsored day-care center in McCall. The community has a grade school, new middle school, a high school, and an alternative school. Boise State University offers evening continuing education classes throughout the year in McCall.

McCall is popular for outdoor recreation. The Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness Area and Hells Canyon National Recreation Area and Wilderness are located nearby. Activities during the summer and fall include hiking, camping, backpacking, climbing, mountain biking, motor biking, golf, tennis, boating, water skiing, canoeing, whitewater kayaking and rafting, fishing, and hunting. During the winter months, residents and visitors alpine ski at Brundage Mountain resort, Nordic ski, snowmobile, ice skate, and ice fish. McCall is famous for its winter carnival and snow sculpture contest. Five minutes from McCall is the Little Ski Hill, with youth ski programs and Nordic skiing. Brundage Mountain ski area is located about 30 minutes from McCall. Ponderosa State Park covers 1,000 acres next to town, with nature trails, groomed Nordic ski trails, beaches, a campground, visitor center and interpretive programs.

The Forest Supervisor's Office, as well as the McCall and Krassel Ranger District offices, is located in McCall. The New Meadows Ranger District Office is located 12 miles from McCall. The Cascade Ranger District office, Boise NF, is located 30 miles south of McCall. Average housing cost is in the \$250-300,000 range. Rentals are available from \$900-\$1,200.

For more information contact the McCall Chamber of Commerce at www.mccallchamber.org

Located between McCall and Council, the community of New Meadows is home to approximately 500 residents. Located in a wide valley with timbered slopes on each side, New Meadows boasts the same recreational opportunities as both Council and McCall. At approximately 3900 feet, New Meadows experiences slightly harsher winters than Council and slightly cooler summers.

While smaller than Council, New Meadows offers most of the same services and amenities, including one grocery store, a library, a senior center, several service stations and motels, and several restaurants and coffee shops. Homes are available to rent or buy. Rental prices vary. The median home price in 2008 was \$169,000.

South of Council 23 miles (midway between Council and Weiser) lies the town of Cambridge, population 360. This small community is characterized by topography and climate similar to Council, with closer proximity to Hells Canyon

National Recreation Area; the Weiser River Rails-to-Trails system also runs through town. Cambridge boasts K-12 schools, a dental clinic, a bank, several restaurants and motels, a raft guide service, beautiful fairgrounds, and a service station.

Like Council, Cambridge's economy is based in timber and ranching, with some tourism as "The Gateway to Hell's Canyon". Community events center on holidays, the outdoors, schools and churches, and family gatherings. Home prices and availability are similar to Council.

One hour south of Council, Weiser is a full service farming community of approximately 5,300 residents and is the county seat of Washington County. It lies in the desert valley about 15 miles south of the Forest with mild winters, hot summers, and a long growing season. It has an active recreation department with beautiful city parks, volleyball, softball, baseball, and soccer programs for kids, and a city pool. Outdoor recreation opportunities abound, with excellent hunting for upland birds, waterfowl, deer, and elk. Snowmobiling, hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, water skiing, camping and ATV riding are all popular in the area. Bogus Basin and Brundage Mountain ski areas and groomed snowmobile trails are within two hours drive.

Weiser schools are considered excellent and offer modern, well-maintained facilities and equipment and dedicated, well prepared staffs. Class sizes average 22 in grades K-6 and 26 in grades 9 -12. A wide variety of extra-curricular club activities and sports are available to students. The small local hospital provides a full range of services, a medical specialty clinic, and emergency care, including helicopter transfer to regional medical trauma centers in Boise. Four physicians, a physical therapist, two dentists, and an optometrist have primary offices in Weiser. Churches of most denominations and faiths serve the community, including several providing worship services in Spanish.

Rental housing is available and ranges from \$350 per month up. Homes to purchase are fairly abundant and range in price for a 2 to 3 bedroom home from \$68,000 to \$150,000. The communities of Ontario, Oregon (20 miles) and Boise, Idaho (70 miles) offer excellent shopping, entertainment, restaurants, and other services.