National Forests of North Carolina

OUTREACH NOTICE

ZONE BOTANIST/ECOLOGIST
GS-0430-11
GS-0408-11

PISGAH NATIONAL FOREST
APPALACHIAN RANGER DISTRICT
MARS HILL, NC

REPLY BY APRIL 4, 2016

IF YOU’RE LOOKING FOR A CHALLENGING OPPORTUNITY, the Appalachian Ranger District will soon be filling a Zone Botanist/Ecologist position. The duty station is located in Mars Hill, N.C.

THE POSITION

This position is responsible for a varied and exciting botany program for the Pisgah Zone comprised of the Appalachian, Grandfather and Pisgah Ranger Districts of the Pisgah National Forest located in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The zone districts host some of the most iconic landscapes in the Appalachian Mountains including Mount Pisgah and the Cradle of Forestry, Mount Mitchell, the highest peak in the eastern U.S. and Linville Gorge, the “Grand Canyon of North Carolina”. The botanical ecology of the area represents some of the most unique and diverse habitats known on earth. Duties for the position include: providing technical expertise for the zone in matters dealing with threatened, endangered and sensitive plant species and the broader plant community and vegetation management by developing and implementing monitoring programs to conserve and protect these plants; serving as the botanical expert when working on or leading interdisciplinary teams; preparing biological evaluations/opinions and assessments; leading ecosystem restoration activities including treatment of noxious weeds and other invasive species through contract administration and working with external partners and volunteers; and maintaining database records on invasive species locations and treatment activities.
THE DISTRICT & COMMUNITY

The Appalachian Ranger District located in Mars Hill, N.C. is conveniently situated within a reasonable commute from multiple distinct communities from rural townships to the city of Asheville which lies only 20 minutes away. The area is an extraordinary place to work and play. People come from around the world to enjoy the recreation and cultural opportunities available including over a hundred miles of both the Appalachian National Scenic Trail and the Blue Ridge Parkway. The Great Smoky Mountains National Park makes up the district’s western border while first-rate whitewater and pleasure boating can be enjoyed on long stretches of the French Broad, Nolichucky and Toe Rivers that all bisect the district.

The central location along the I-26 corridor provides access to ample services, a variety of school districts and multiple housing options. Government housing is not available.

The purpose of this outreach notice is to inform prospective applicants of this upcoming employment opportunity and to determine interest in the position. The vacancy announcement when issued may be advertised under either the 0430 series or 0408 series or both depending on the outreach response.

To express interest in this position, please complete and return the attached Outreach Response Form by April 4, 2016. For additional information about this opportunity, please contact District Ranger Matt McCombs at 828-689-9694 ext. 101 or at mmccombs@fs.fed.us. Note: Non-competitive lateral reassignment may be considered for qualified candidates currently at the target grade. Please contact Ranger McCombs directly to discuss your interest in this option.
# NATIONAL FORESTS OF NORTH CAROLINA

**Outreach Response Form**

Zone Botanist/Ecologist, GS-0430/0408  
Appalachian Ranger District Ranger District  
Mars Hill, NC

**Please Reply by April 4, 2016**

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<td>☐ 0430 Botanist Series</td>
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<td>☐ 0408 Ecologist Series</td>
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If you are **not** a status (career or career conditional) permanent employee, please check the following special authorities that you **are** eligible for:

- Reinstatement Eligible ☐
- Person with Disability ☐
- Veterans Readjustment ☐
- Disabled Veteran w/30% Compensable Disability ☐
- Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998 ☐
- Former Peace Corps Volunteer ☐
- Student Career Experience Program ☐
- Land Management Workforce Flexibility Act ☐
- Other: 

We appreciate your interest in this position.

Please fax or email this completed form to:

**Appalachian Ranger District**  
**ATTN: Matt McCombs**  
**Fax: (828) 689-9762 ext. 101**  
**Email: mmccombs@fs.fed.us**