Outreach

The Hiawatha National Forest is anticipating a vacancy for a Forestry Technician GS-0462-7/8/9. This is a full-time permanent position located in Rapid River, Michigan. To respond to the Outreach, visit https://fsoutreach.gdcii.com/Outreach, search for this position, and submit the online response.

This position has primary responsibility perform presale, sale administration and similar duties as part of the timber management program.

This outreach is to determine interest in the position. This position will be announced in USA Jobs, https://www.usajobs.gov/. The announcement number will be added here when available. The opening and closing dates will also be added.

About The Position

Major Duties

This position includes but is not limited to the following key activities:

- GS-9
  - Reviews the contract and related pre-sale data such as preliminary logging plan, environment assessment report, appraisal, etc. Determines that all prerequisites to contract work are taken care of such as, but not limited to, advance deposits, delegations of authority, road construction and timber cutting coordination, improvement locations, operating schedule, logging plan preparation, scaling arrangements, and environmental protection measures. Reviews plans and schedules with purchasers to assure common understanding of conditions and responsibilities.
  - Throughout the life of the sale, is responsible for continuing field inspection and control of purchaser's operations such as falling, skidding yarding, loading, and hauling. Determines whether utilization, slash disposal, and erosion control are adequate. Documents all findings for the sale record. Takes appropriate action to correct deficiencies, and assesses penalties when needed. Insures that stream courses and other land features are protected.
o Advise purchaser’s field representatives of adequacy or inadequacy of operations and achieves compliance with contract terms, including safety and employment requirements.

o Determines when log hauling may be allowed on system roads under construction, agreements, and monthly reports of progress. Initiates requests for payment, bond changes, or cooperative work. Reviews timber sale statements or account and maintains controls to insure that all payments and deposits are made.

o Coordinates sale administration duties with other unit timber and related activities. Keeps supervisor informed of major problems.

o Serves as the Contracting Officer’s Representative (COR) on service contracts and inspects work for compliance with contract specifications and provisions. Uses approved procedures and techniques in preparing service contracts that include delineating areas and preparing the sample contract. Ensures that all contractual obligations are met before making final inspection and recommending sale closure.

o May train and supervise one or two inspectors or trainees who perform limited phases of sale administration.

• GS-8

o Functions as a sale administrator who performs complex sales on the unit involving a combination of three or more of the following complexities:
  - Helicopter Yarding Systems
  - Streamside Management Units with special protection requirements.
  - Tractor yarding with pre-designated skid trails.
  - Tractor yarding with over-the-snow logging.
  - Harvest within sensitive visual corridors adjacent major forest roads or stated/federal highways.
  - Known cultural resources within sale area needing protection. Protective measure will be made for endangered, threatened or sensitive species of plants or animals within the sale area.
  - Operator requiring more than average monitoring to achieve contract requirements.

o Reviews the contract and related pre-sale data such as preliminary logging plan, environmental assessment, appraisal, etc. Determines that all prerequisites to contract work are taken care of such as, but not limited to, advance deposits, delegations of authority, road construction and timber cutting coordination, improvement locations, operating schedules, logging plan preparations, scaling arrangements, and environmental protection measures. Employee reviews plans and schedules with purchasers to assure common understanding of conditions and responsibilities.

o Throughout the life of the sale, is responsible for continuing field inspection and control of purchaser’s operations such as falling, skidding and yarding, loading, hauling, and all log accountability requirements.

o Determines whether utilization, slash disposal, and erosion control are adequate; documents all findings for the sale record; takes appropriate action to correct deficiencies, and assesses penalties when appropriate; ensures that stream courses and other land or cultural features are protected.
• Employee ensures that all contractual obligations are met before making final inspection and recommending sale closure. Coordinates sale administration and pre-sale duties with other districts. Keeps supervisor informed of major problems.
• Responsible for Timber Sales Preparation duties. Reviews the timber sales contract package; determines plans and arranges for the resources needed to complete the layout of sales; identifies and verifies the land status and environmental constraints affecting layout of the proposed project on the ground; reviews, compiles and analyzes field data; is involved in cruising and marking of timber and prepares general logging plans and verifies logging system settings.
• Supervision Less than 20% - Provides technical and administrative supervision to subordinate employees. Plans work to be accomplished, sets and adjusts short-term priorities and prepares schedules for completion of work. Assigns work based on priorities, selective consideration of the difficulty and requirements of assignments, and the capabilities of employees. Evaluates work performance. Gives advice, counsel or instruction to employees on both work and administrative matters. Hears and resolves minor complaints from employees. Refers group grievances and more serious unresolved complaints to a higher level supervisor or manager. Interviews candidates for employment; recommends or selects for temporary positions. Finds ways to improve production or increase the quality of work directed.
• Provides leadership, allocates resources, and implements activities to accomplish Forest Service multicultural organization direction and Equal Opportunity and Civil Rights requirements, goals, policies, and objectives. Supports and participates in the Work Environment Continuous Improvement process. Ensures all communication - written, oral, visual, signed - is non-discriminatory and sensitive to all employees and publics. Creates a work environment which respects, appreciates, and accepts contributions and perspectives of all employees.

• GS-7
  • Monitors and inspects timber sale operations having conventional contract requirements and conditions.
  • Interprets and explains timber sale contract provisions to the timber operator. Informs supervisor of problems that have an effect on other forest resources or accuracy of marking and scaling.
  • Inspects going timber sales areas for compliance with contract clauses governing location and construction of non-system roads, fire prevention, personal safety precautions, and cutting provisions. Obtains compliance or reports noncompliance to supervisor.
  • Prepares written reports of all sale inspections and makes follow-ups on deficiencies.
  • Performs final inspections and recommends acceptance of the contract for closure.
  • Performs other duties as assigned.
Duty Station

**Rapid River/Manistique Ranger District:** The Hiawatha National Forest Rapid River/Manistique Ranger District office is located in Rapid River, MI. The incumbent’s official duty station will be Rapid River.

**The National Forest:** Hiawatha National Forest lies in the central and eastern Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Approximately 1 million acres. Hiawatha National Forest is divided geographically into two units. Munising Ranger District and Rapid River/Manistique Ranger District comprise the Forest’s West Unit with shoreline on Lake Superior and Lake Michigan. The Forest’s East Unit includes the St. Ignace and Sault Ste. Marie Ranger Districts, with shoreline on Lakes Superior, Michigan and Huron.

**MISSION:** Hiawatha National Forest sustains the health, diversity and productivity of the Forest’s resources to meet the needs of present and future generations through conservation. We will accomplish this mission through:

- Integration - We achieve Forest goals through interdisciplinary planning and implementation of projects, emphasizing teamwork.
- Innovation - We achieve Forest efficiency and effectiveness working with partnerships, stewardship contracting, volunteers, and better systems approaches.
- Safety - Our core values include safety and wellness, which guide our daily operations.
- Diversity - We strive to develop a versatile workforce to serve our diverse public.

**VISION:** Your Great Lakes National Forest inspires unforgettable experiences and sustaining ecosystems and livelihoods through collaborative, science-based land management.

The Forest’s **SIGNIFICANCE** includes:

- The Forest’s ASQ is 109mmbf, as determined in its 2006 LMP. In recent years our cut has been about 45 mmbf but will be increasing over the next few years to 60 mmbf.
- The Forest’s uniqueness stems largely from its proximity to three Great Lakes. The Great Lakes affect its weather, recreation opportunities, scenery, historic sites, hydrology, and ecosystem diversity. The Forest’s recreation niche, “Your Great Lakes National Forest” captures some of this uniqueness by focusing on the Forest’s “Great Lakeshores” (Lakes Superior, Michigan and Huron), “Great Lighthouses” (Point Iroquois, North Light, East Channel Light, Christmas Range Light, Peninsula Point and Round Island Lighthouse); “Great Islands” (Grand Island, Round Island, and St. Vitals Island); and “Great Snow” (referring to the hundreds of inches of snow that fall each winter.
- Clear Lake Education Center, a former CCC camp turned award-winning environmental education center offering day and residential learning experiences focused on natural resources. High and low ropes courses are also offered. The center is cooperated through partnership with Delta Schoolcraft Intermediate School District and Marquette Alger Regional Education Service Agency. An interagency team has committed to transitioning the center to an interagency format, initially including USFS and NPS.
• Six lighthouses located on NF land, including Grand Island North Light, East Channel Light, Christmas Range Lights, Peninsula Point Light, Round Island Light, and Point Iroquois Light Station.
• Whitefish Bay Scenic Byway, which offers a premier view of Lake Superior including historic interpretation of Point Iroquois Light Station.
• Grand Island Youth Archaeology Workshops, held each summer on Grand Island NRA since 1999 and coordinated by Munising Ranger District. These workshops offer hands-on experiences with real archaeology. In recent years, Illinois State University’s Grand Island Archaeology Field School has assisted in presenting the workshop.

Community Information

**Rapid River** sits on the northern end of Little Bay de Noc portion of Green Bay on the northwestern end of Lake Michigan. The town is between the mouths of the Tacoosh and Rapid Rivers with the mouth of the Whitefish River a few miles east. The town has a high school, bank, gas stations, motels, restaurants, and bars. Gladstone is about 7 miles south. The Hiawatha National Forest is just east of town. The area offers trophy fishing, hunting, canoeing, kayaking, hiking, biking, horseback riding, wildlife watching, photography, ATVing, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, ice fishing, and snowmobiling. A small ski hill is a few miles south.

**Gladstone** is located on the picturesque shores of Little Bay de Noc in Delta County (37,200 residence). Our location offers our residents and visitors numerous year-round activities. Boasting a population of just over 5,000, we have the small town quality and hospitality that the Upper Peninsula is known for. The City offers its own city-owned/operated utilities and campground. Gladstone School system has two elementary, one middle and one high school.

Gladstone’s economy is focused around service and timber industry business. Primary employers include federal/state/local government, a paper manufacturing operation, and numerous small businesses that support the local fisheries and winter sports.

Delta County Airport serves the city with daily flights to larger airports. Major transportation routes in Escanaba include US Highway 2, US Highway 41, and M-35. Escanaba.

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Bay College, a community college, is located in Escanaba. Bay provides a range of online and classroom learning opportunities including AA, AS, and AAS degrees and certificates.

Northern Michigan University is located in Marquette, a vibrant, progressive community with outstanding educational, entertainment and recreation opportunities.

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Delta Area Transit Authority operates a bus system throughout Delta County.

Eight public school districts and two private schools operate in Delta County. Post-secondary educational institutions include Bay de Noc Community College, located in Escanaba, and Northern Michigan University, located about 60 miles away in Marquette, MI.

Cultural opportunities in Escanaba include the William Bonifas Fine Art Center, the Waterfront Art Festival, Escanaba City Band, Players de Noc, and Bay de Noc Choral Society, and many smaller arts organizations, art galleries, and musical performing groups.

**Delta County** is located in the central Upper Peninsula and lies on the shore of Lake Michigan. The county prides itself in having more fresh water shoreline than any other county in the nation. The county includes a mix of private and public lands including Escanaba State Forest and Hiawatha National Forest.

If you’re looking for outdoor recreation opportunities, Delta County has much to offer. Residents enjoy a wide range of outdoor pursuits including sea kayaking, canoeing, camping, mountain biking, hiking, trail running, cross-country skiing, ice fishing, snowshoeing and more. Recreation oriented groups include the Bays de Noc Great Lakes The City of Escanaba Recreation Department offers a variety of recreational activities and leagues, and the Delta YMCA offers a variety of recreational activities and classes promoting family wellness.

**Surrounding Area** Escanaba (population 18,500) is located on Bay de Noc, adjacent to Gladstone. Commuters and shoppers travel between the two communities. Escanaba offers schools, parks, trails, recreation, a summer concert series, a harbor, Health care/hospital and other amenities.

Marquette (population 19,700) is the Upper Peninsula’s largest city. Located on Lake Superior about 65 miles north of Escanaba, it is a handy location in which to find additional options including medical services, shopping, art, culture, entertainment, restaurants and more. Marquette is home to Northern Michigan University and Marquette General Hospital, numerous clinics, several malls and large chain stores, a food coop, theaters, and a YMCA.

**Websites** For more Information about the surrounding area, visit the following the websites:

- Rapid River, Michigan
- City of Gladstone
- City of Escanaba
- Delta County
- Bays de Noc Convention & Visitors Bureau

**Contacts**

For more information about this opportunity, feel free to contact David Osmak, Timber Management Assistant, at 906-474-6442, ext.2113; or via email at dosmak@fs.fed.us.

**Please Note:**
FOREST SERVICE EMPLOYEES ON THE WORKFORCE REDUCTION PLACEMENT SYSTEM LIST WILL RECEIVE PRIORITY CONSIDERATION AND CTAP/ICTAP CANDIDATES WILL RECEIVE THE APPROPRIATE CONSIDERATION.

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