

# Ouachita National Forest Outreach/Announcement



**This position potentially will be eligible to be included in the GS-0456 Wildland Firefighter job series implementation.**

**Six (6) Temporary (1039 Hours), Forestry Aid/Technician-Wildland Firefighter at the  
GS-0462/0456-03/04/05 Firefighter(WFF)**

Vacancy Outreach/Announcement: **Open 06/21/2024, Close 07/10/2024**

These Announcement(s) will open at [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov)

## **ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBERS:**

**25-TEMPF1-R8-3867-3DH**

**25-TEMPF1-R8-3868-4DH**

**25-TEMPF1-R8-3869-5DH**

THE OUACHITA NATIONAL FOREST AS PART OF REGION 8 TEMP FIREHIRE IS OUTREACHING TO FILL 6 FORESTRY AIDE/TECHNICIAN-WILDLAND FIREFIGHTER (WFF) GS-0462/0456-03/04/05 POSITION(S).



## REPORTING/DUTY STATION WILL BE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

- 3 POSITIONS AT HOCHATOWN/BROKEN BOW, OK. OKLAHOMA RANGER DISTRICTS (IN SOUTHEAST OKLAHOMA)
- 3 POSITIONS AT BIG CEDAR/HODGEN, OK. OKLAHOMA RANGER DISTRICTS (IN SOUTHEAST OKLAHOMA)

The person selected must meet the qualifications for a Forestry Aide/Technician-Wildland Firefighter (WFF) GS-0462/0456-03/04/05. Qualification requirements can be reviewed at:

<https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/classification-qualifications/general-schedule-qualification-standards/0400/forestry-technician-series-0462/>

And

<http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/management/ifpm/index.html> or

<https://www.ifpm.nifc.gov/standard/ifpmstandard.htm>

To express interest in this position please complete the attached voluntary Outreach Interest Form and return it to:

Big Cedar/Hodgen, OK- Anthony Ashalintubbi (SFE0) 501-617-2965 email: [anthony.ashalintubbi@usda.gov](mailto:anthony.ashalintubbi@usda.gov), by 07/10/2024.

Hochatown/Broken Bow, OK- Jesse Nichols (SFE0) 530-515-9966 email: [jesse.a.nichols@usda.gov](mailto:jesse.a.nichols@usda.gov), by 07/10/2024.

## ABOUT THE POSITION

### **GS-0462/0456-03 Forestry Aide/Wildland Firefighter (WFF) PD# FS3867**

This is a standard wildland fire management position description intended for use in the USDA, Forest Service. The position is located on a fire crew as a crewmember within the fire management organization.

The purpose of the position is wildland fire suppression/management/control, as a firefighter on an engine, hotshot, helitack or hand crew. Other wildland fire related duties might involve fire prevention, patrol, detection, or prescribed burning. The incumbent will also be involved with the maintenance and repair of firefighting tools equipment and facilities, and will receive firefighting training. If this position description is used to fill a vacancy on a helitack module, the selected applicant must possess a minimum of one season (90-days) of experience as a NWCG Wildland Firefighter Type 2 (FFT2) as per Forest Service policy (FSFAQG Chapter 4).

In accordance with USDA Department Regulation 4430-792-2, this position is a Testing Designated Position (TDP) under the USDA Drug Free Workplace Program and subject to pre-employment drug testing. All applicants selected for this position will be required to submit to a urinalysis to screen for illegal drug use prior to appointment. Incumbents of this position will be required to submit to a urinalysis on an ongoing random basis, after appointment as directed.

Incumbent is subject to medical screening and must meet the Federal Wildland Firefighter Medical Qualification Standards for arduous duty wildland firefighting.



This is a primary firefighter position under the provisions of 5 USC 8336 (c) and 5 USC 8412 (d). This position has been matched to SJN2011 which was approved for primary firefighter retirement coverage by USDA for FERS on 02/16/1988, A2 and matched to a PD with no PD# that was approved for primary firefighter retirement coverage by OPM on 03/01/1978, 6c.

This is a drug testing position.

### **GS-0462/0456-04 Forestry Technician-Wildland Firefighter (WFF) PD# FS3868**

This is a standard wildland fire management position description intended for use in a Forest Service field unit. The position is located on a wildland fire crew. The primary purpose of this position is to perform wildland firefighting work. Crews perform work directly related to wildland fire suppression and control activities including detection, patrol, suppression, preparedness, prevention, monitoring, prescribed burning, and hazardous fuels reduction. Incumbent may also perform duties as a firefighter on an engine, as a hotshot, helitack or hand crew. May also perform work in other fuels related or ecosystem restoration projects.

In accordance with USDA Department Regulation 4430-792-2, this position is a Testing Designated Position (TDP) under the USDA Drug Free Workplace Program and subject to pre-employment drug testing. All applicants selected for this position will be required to submit to a urinalysis to screen for illegal drug use prior to appointment. Incumbents of this position will be required to submit to a urinalysis on an ongoing random basis, after appointment as directed.

Incumbent is subject to medical screening and must meet the Federal Wildland Firefighter Medical Qualification Standards for arduous duty wildland firefighting.

This is a primary firefighter position under the provisions of 5 USC 8336 (c) and 5 USC 8412 (d). This position has been matched to SJN2011 which was approved for primary firefighter retirement coverage by USDA for FERS on 02/16/1988, A2 and matched to a PD with no PD# that was approved for primary firefighter retirement coverage by OPM on 03/01/1978, 6c.

This is a drug testing position.

### **GS-0462/0456-05 Forestry Technician- Senior Firefighter(SRFF) PD# FS3869**

This is a standard wildland fire management position description intended for use in the USDA, Forest Service. The position is located on a wildland fire crew. The primary purpose of this position is to perform wildland firefighting work. These crews perform work directly related to wildland fire suppression and control activities including suppression, preparedness, prevention, monitoring, and hazardous fuels reduction. May also perform duties in other fuels related or ecosystem restoration projects.

This position is categorized as a Senior Firefighter (SRFF) position in the Interagency Fire Program Management (IFPM) Standard and Guide as designated by the W.O. Fire and Aviation Management. The IFPM selective placement factors for this position must be attained by October 1, 2010 and thereafter must be met prior to entrance into the position as a condition of hire. Refer to the Forest Service IFPM Standard Position Description Crosswalk for a full description of the selective placement factors.

In accordance with USDA Department Regulation 4430-792-2, this position is a Testing Designated Position (TDP) under the USDA Drug Free Workplace Program and subject to pre-employment drug testing. All



applicants selected for this position will be required to submit to a urinalysis to screen for illegal drug use prior to appointment. Incumbents of this position will be required to submit to a urinalysis on an ongoing random basis, after appointment as directed.

Incumbent is subject to medical screening and must meet the Federal Wildland Firefighter Medical Qualification Standards for arduous duty wildland firefighting.

This is a primary firefighter position under the provisions of 5 USC 8336 (c) and 5 USC 8412 (d). This position has been matched to SJN2011 which was approved for primary firefighter retirement coverage by USDA for FERS on 02/16/1988, A2 and matched to a PD with no PD# that was approved for primary firefighter retirement coverage by OPM on 03/01/1978, 6c.

This is a drug testing position.

**WORK CAPACITY TEST (WCT) for Wildland Firefighters:** This position participates in wildland firefighting activities. Based on the type of work performed, TAKING and PASSING the WCT at the ARDUOUS level is a "condition of employment." The Arduous fitness (Pack) Test requires completing a three (3) mile hike within forty-five (45) minutes, while carrying a forty-five (45) pound pack.

**ABOUT THE FIRE PROGRAM:** The Ouachita National Forest is comprised of five (5) ranger districts that covers 1.8 million acres in central Arkansas and Southeastern Oklahoma. Each ranger district is categorized as a Moderate Complexity Sub-Unit and the Ouachita National Forest is categorized as a High Complexity Unit. The Ouachita National Forest has an active fire program functioning within a split fire season. Our first season or burn season begins in January and ends in late March to early April. During this time of year, the Ouachita National Forest is very active with prescribed fire, treating 70,000-100,000 acres annually. Typically, the second fire season begins in August through October occasionally extending into November. The majority of our unplanned events or wildfires occur during this time. The Ouachita National Forest fire program continually works to maintain and enhance relationships with federal, state, tribal, and local governments.

## DUTY STATION:

The Choctaw, Kiamichi, and Tiak Ranger Districts (subunits), managed as one ranger district/zone, are ecologically diverse and overall, highly visible. The combined ranger districts average a yearly output of 30,000 ccf of timber volume and 20,000-30,000 acres of prescribed burning. The duty station for 3 position(s) in Hochatown/Broken Bow, OK and 3 in Big Cedar/Hodgen, OK. The ranger districts make up the western quarter of the Ouachita National Forest reaching from the Red River south of Idabel, OK to just south of Poteau, OK.

The diversity of the ranger districts starts with swamp and wetlands in the south to high mountain pine and hardwood forest with tall timber and red cockaded woodpecker colonies in between. The ranger districts are the largest tract of public lands in Oklahoma. The ranger districts host the Ouachita National Forest's largest recreation site at Cedar Lake Recreation Area which includes an equestrian camp and trails, RV and tent sites, public fishing access, access to hiking trails, and a swim beach. The largest usage by the public is dispersed recreation for hunting, however opportunities abound for hiking, kayaking, UTV riding, wildlife



viewing and other nature-based activities. The Upper Kiamichi River and Black Fork Wilderness areas are separated by the Robert Kerr National Botanical area, all located on the north end of the ranger districts.

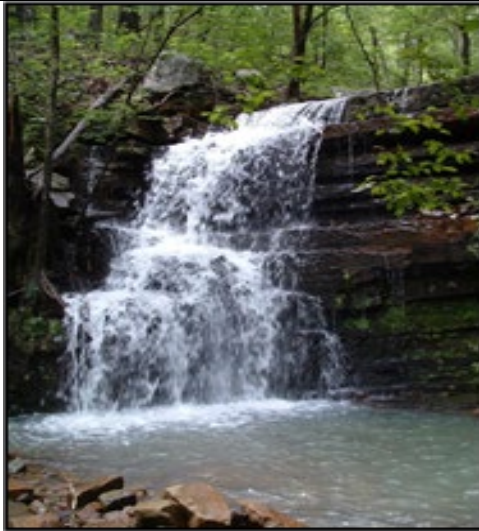
Partnerships are critical to the functioning and productivity of the ranger districts with partners from other Federal agencies, state agencies, tribes, and non-government organizations among the list of active and potential partners. Ranger district staff include a broad spectrum of disciplines, from firefighters to archaeologists, foresters to biologists.

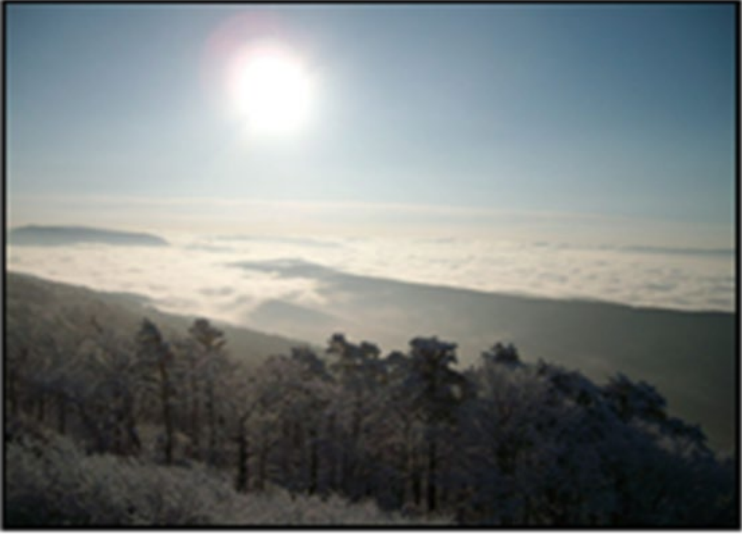
## **FOREST AND COMMUNITY INFORMATION**

### **FOREST INFORMATION:**

The Ouachita National Forest is primarily a pine-hickory mix. It has over 700 miles of [trails](#) for various activities such as hiking, mountain biking, interpretive, equestrian, off-road vehicles, and trails that allow for accessibility. There are 35 developed [recreation areas](#), 7 scenic areas, 43 vistas, 5 float camps, 11 shooting ranges, 2 historical sites, 6 wilderness areas, and 1 national recreation area. Several of these areas are managed by the Oklahoma Ranger Districts within the Choctaw, Kiamichi, and Tiak units.

The Ouachita National Forest works closely with our national forest neighbor to the north, the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests. The three national forests share a public affairs staff and fire organization. The Arkansas Oklahoma interagency coordination center, located in Hot Springs, AR, is the hub for a combined fire effort. For more information on the Ouachita National Forest visit the external website at [www.fs.usda.gov/ouachita](http://www.fs.usda.gov/ouachita)





### COMMUNITY INFORMATION:

Broken Bow, OK with a population of about 4,100 is a full-service community. Tourism is its largest employer. Broken Bow Lake and Beavers' Bend State Park are the main attractions. Housing ranges from moderately priced single-family home to six figure cabins in the Hochatown area. Current employees live in a fairly large range from in town Broken Bow, Oklahoma to De Queen, Arkansas or further south to Texas. Home prices can vary depending on specific area and time of year, but current availability ranges from \$100-200k for a single-family home.

Hochatown, OK is the un-incorporated community where the ranger station is located, approximately 8 miles north of Broken Bow. Hochatown is a booming recreation area complete with vacation luxury cabins, wineries, breweries, zip lining, premier trout fishing, and more. Construction and expansion of these recreation opportunities are increasing as more and more amenities are being provided to recreating publics from the nearby metropolitan areas which include Dallas/ Ft. Worth, TX; Oklahoma City, OK; Tulsa, OK, and Ft. Smith, AR. You may search the communities below for more information.

Broken Bow, OK Chamber of Commerce

Visit McCurtain County Oklahoma

Hodgen, OK is considered a small town with a population of 516. The next closest towns near there are Poteau, Heavener, Big Cedar, and Talihina, OK. These are all full-service communities with exception of Big Cedar (Duty Station). You may search the communities below for more information.



Poteau, OK Chamber of Commerce

Talihina, OK Chamber of Commerce

Heavener, OK Chamber of Commerce



For information about the Ouachita National Forest, Ranger Districts, and Communities visit:

Ouachita National Forest	<a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/ouachita">http://www.fs.usda.gov/ouachita</a>
The Ranger Districts	<a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/ouachita/recreation/recarea/?recid=10745">https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/ouachita/recreation/recarea/?recid=10745</a>
Broken Bow (Hochatown), Oklahoma	<a href="http://www.brokenbowchamber.com">www.brokenbowchamber.com</a> <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hochatown,_Oklahoma">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hochatown,_Oklahoma</a>

## **Ouachita National Forest**

### OUTREACH RESPONSE FORM

Outreach/Vacancy Announcement Open: **Open 06/21/2024, Close 07/10/2024**

**Six (6) Temporary (1039 Hours), Forestry Aide/Technician-Wildland Firefighter at the GS-0462/0456-03/04/05 Firefighter(WFF)**

#### **SPECIFY POSITION WHICH APPLYING BY CHECKING THE BOX:**

GS-0462/0456-03 Firefighter(WFF)-

GS-0462/0456-04 Firefighter(WFF)-

GS-0462/0456-05 Firefighter(WFF) -

#### **SPECIFY PREFERRED DUTY STATION:**

BIG CEDAR/HODGEN- YES  NO

HOCHATOWN/BROKEN BOW- YES  NO

#### **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_



CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT SERIES AND GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU CURRENTLY A FEDERAL EMPLOYEE? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

IF YES, CURRENT AGENCY AND LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF APPOINTMENT: PERMANENT \_\_\_\_\_ TEMPORARY \_\_\_\_\_ TERM \_\_\_\_\_

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS POSITION? \_\_\_\_\_

Qualifications / Why I would like to be considered for this position:

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## CONTACT INFORMATION:

### IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION

Interested applicants or those desiring further information about the position, please complete the attached voluntary Outreach Interest Form and return to:

Big Cedar/Hodgen, OK- Anthony Ashalintubbi (SFEO) 501-617-2965 email: [anthony.ashalintubbi@usda.gov](mailto:anthony.ashalintubbi@usda.gov), by 07/10/2024.

Hochatown/Broken Bow, OK- Jesse Nichols (SFEO) 530-515-9966 email: [jesse.a.nichols@usda.gov](mailto:jesse.a.nichols@usda.gov), by 07/10/2024.

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN OUR VACANCY!

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*To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 1-800-795-3272 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

