The Rocky Mountain Research Station (RMRS), Forest and Woodland Ecosystems Program, will soon be advertising for a **Geographer, GS-0150-09**. This position works in support of Forest and Woodland Ecosystems Research at the Rocky Mountain Research Station Forest Sciences Laboratory in Moscow, Idaho. Duties include geospatial database management, processing and analysis in support of interdisciplinary research projects, and entails mainly office but also field work.

**AREA OF CONSIDERATION:** U.S. Citizens.

**DUTY STATION INFORMATION:** Moscow, ID. For additional information about Moscow, ID, go to: [www.moscowchamber.com](http://www.moscowchamber.com)

**SCIENCE PROGRAM INFORMATION:** Interested candidates can visit the RMRS website at: [http://www.fs.fed.us/rmrs](http://www.fs.fed.us/rmrs) and the FWE website at: [http://www.fs.fed.us/rmrs/research/programs/forest-woodlands-ecosystem/](http://www.fs.fed.us/rmrs/research/programs/forest-woodlands-ecosystem/)

**MAJOR DUTIES:**

- **Data analysis, reporting, and writing 20%** - on research related to vulnerability assessments of climate change, land cover change, fire, bark beetles, and other aspects of disturbance ecology primarily in the western United States but also elsewhere in forests and rangeland ecosystems. Assists with the preparation of manuscripts and reports for each of these sites.

- **GIS Development & Support 25%** - Plans, coordinates and develops digital GIS schemes, layers and databases, in the areas of forest and rangeland natural resources management, utilizing state-of-the-art methods, practices, techniques and equipment. Investigates and implements, where feasible, linking of various software output into GIS products. Evaluates the availability and technical adequacy of existing digital data and that generated by other government agencies; including data from Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA), United States Geological Survey (USGS), and private commercial vendors of LiDAR and other remotely sensed data. Routinely utilizes resources and data available through the Internet, including imagery, software updates and extensions, news groups, list servers, etc. As the GIS technical expert, employee performs duties of GIS analysis and technical POC with the responsibility to maintain collaborations with
academic partners; public land management agencies; the private sector; professional
organizations; and other individuals concerned with GIS and remote sensing data,
particularly LiDAR. Ensures all mapping and GIS products adhere to relevant standards
and regulations, GIS quality standards, and other established design policies for
navigation, regulatory, and resource management functions.

- **Geospatial and Information Management 25%** - Prepares charts, graphs, and/or
reports for presentation and publication. Coordinates and organizes field and remotely
sensed data associated with the GIS and corporate applications. Assists in project
planning in order to accomplish geospatial projects. Makes frequent independent
decisions under general guidelines. Collects existing information (data and maps) from
field offices; collects information using prescribed methods; programs and applies
standards and quality assurance techniques. Compiles data from diverse sources but with
an emphasis on LiDAR and other remote sensing data. Extracts and assembles
information, and develops reports or presentations, including in a lead author capacity.
Applies geographic and cartographic principles to geospatial databases and map
compilation. Applies skill and knowledge in gathering forest and rangeland vegetation
inventory data and then analyzes, evaluates, consolidates, and formally reports on
findings. Documents field procedures and office methods to enter metadata information
on the data and attribute layers. This includes field data collection procedures, and coding
of data elements for conversion to digital format. Prepar.es charts, graphs, etc., for studies
or natural resource evaluations requiring the application of different methods, procedures
and techniques. Results of reports are incorporated into larger projects. Operates
computers for map digitizing and editing, for maintaining the GIS database, for
conducting GIS analysis, and for producing map and list products. Inputs geospatial data
and derived products into GIS databases and verifies map accuracy. Provides geospatial
and attribute data product support to customers and assists or trains employees in their
use and creation of geospatial products.

- **Methodology Development Support 20%** - Applies the processes, methods, and
procedures associated with forest and rangeland studies to resolve the full range of
irregular or problematic situations when performing a wide variety of nonstandard
assignments. Assesses and interprets readings, measurements, tests, and/or observations,
relating the significance of the results to the activities' higher objectives.

- **Surveying, Measuring and Recording of Field Data, Testing, Inspecting, and/or
Sampling Support 10%** - Independently carries out support roles on research projects.
Assembles and prepares material for field research work including selection and
maintenance of maps and equipment. Uses equipment to take readings, and records and
analyzes data, noting the presence of inconsistencies in the results. Transfers map point
locations manually or through the use of software applications. Interpretation of each
point may be conducted to classify by land use, forest type, biomass and carbon loads,
wildlife habitat, ecological conditions, and disturbance history.
For more information regarding duties for the position, please contact Andrew Hudak, Research Forester at 208-883-2327 or ahudak@fs.fed.us.

**QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:** Those who are interested must meet the qualification requirements for the GS-0150 series that are covered by the U. S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Group Coverage Qualification Standards for Geographer. The OPM Qualification Standards Handbook Manual is available for review at any federal personnel office or on the Internet at: http://www.opm.gov/qualifications/standards/group-stds/gs-cler.asp

Primary Contact: Andrew Hudak  
Phone Number: 208-883-2327  
E-mail address: ahudak@fs.fed.us

If you are interested in this opportunity, please fill out the attached Outreach Notice From and send to ahudak@fs.fed.us by January 11, 2013.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION: The USDA Forest Service provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please contact the point of contact listed on the vacancy announcement. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

OUTREACH NOTICE FORM
If you are interested in this opportunity, please complete this form and send it by e-mail to ahudak@fs.fed.us (Please include “GS-0150-09, Geographer Outreach” on the subject line of your message.)

Please respond no later than January 18, 2013. The permanent position will be advertised on the OPM USA Jobs website www.usajobs.opm.gov shortly.

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Name: ___________________________ Date: ___________
Address: ___________________________ Phone: ________
E-Mail: ___________________________

Are you currently a Forest Service employee: YES ☐ NO ☐

Current title/series/grade/location/classification:

(e.g., Career, Career-Conditional, Excepted-ANILCA, Excepted VRA, etc)

Briefly describe why you will be a quality candidate for this position:

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA’s Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

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