Finger Lakes National Forest, Hector Ranger District - Hector, NY


The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to determine the potential applicant pool for this position and area of consideration for the advertisement.

Primary Duties for this Position Include:

- **Managing the Forest Range Program:** The Finger Lakes National Forest has the 3rd largest Range program in the Eastern Region. Over 1,500 head of cattle are grazed on the Forest within 40 different pastures from May 15 - November 15, each year thru an Agreement with the Hector Grazing Association. In addition, a number of contracts are awarded each year for: Mowing of the Grasslands for Grazing, Herbicide Spraying (both Broadcast and Hand) to treat and prevent the spread of Golden Rod and Knapweed in the Pastures, as well as fence installation and repair. This position serves as the Contracting Officers Representative (COR) for a large majority of these contracts.

- **Managing the Forest Recreation Program:** This position is responsible for the supervision of the Forestry Technician – Recreation position, and the overall management of this program area. The Forest already has a variety of partners and volunteers that we work with; however there is as strong need to expand in these areas so more can be accomplished on the ground. Administration of various Rec. Special Use Permits would also fall to this position. Overall the Forest has over 30 miles of trails - allowing all uses except ATV’s; three campgrounds, and numerous dispersed camping spots. The North Country Trail (Finger Lakes Trail) is found on the southern part of the Forest.

- **Managing Forest Resources (Perspective of...Timber/Silvicultural/Forest Health):** This is a new aspect to this position. There is a strong need for an individual in this position who has the background and skills in Forestry and is capable of making on the ground examinations of Forest areas to determine which require short or long-range treatments both from a Timber Management aspect and even more so a Forest Health standpoint.

*For Example:* The “Finger Lakes Invasive Pest Strategy (FLIPS)”: In 2011 the Forest developed an action plan (of sorts) to start addressing the potential impact of a variety of Invasive Pests. Emerald Ash Borer is currently located in the adjacent county, Hemlock Wolly Adelgid is already present and spreading, as well as Sirex Wood Wasp. This position will be handling all aspects of FLIPS, the base concept is determining a course of action where the Forest is pro-active instead of re-active in how to deal with the potential impacts from all the invasive pests knocking on our door step.
Other Duties as Assigned: The Finger Lakes National Forest only has 6 –permanent full-time employees: District Ranger (GS-13), Wildlife Biologist (GS-9), Forestry Technician (GS-7), Program Support Assistant (GS-7), Information Receptionist (GS-4) and this position. Because we have such a small staff, everyone supports one another and pitches in where ever and when ever they can to help with various projects and program areas. In a lot of way, this is what makes the Finger Lakes NF a special place to work and is truly a gift - you will always have someone ready and willing to help complete a project or assist in the accomplishing what needs to get done. You also get to work in a variety of areas not normally within your “normal duties.” It’s also a great place to work!

Duty Station: Hector, NY

The Green Mountain & Finger Lakes National Forests are actually two separate National Forests administered as one. The Green Mountain is located in Rutland, VT and the Finger Lakes is located in Hector, NY. Our Supervisors Office is located in Rutland, VT.

The Finger Lakes National Forest encompasses over 16,000 acres nestled between Seneca and Cayuga Lakes in the Finger Lakes Region of New York State. It is the only National Forest in the state of New York and is the second smallest National Forest in the Nation. We have over 30 miles of interconnecting trails that traverse gorges, ravines, pastures, and woodlands. Whether you are a hiker, cross country skier, camper, fishing or hunting enthusiast, snowmobiler, horseback rider, mountain biker, or wildlife watcher, the Finger Lakes National Forest will amaze you with its scenic beauty.

Don’t let us being a small forest fool you - we have a very diverse program of work and recently won the National Wild Turkey Federations - “National Making Tracks Partnership Achievement Award” - in recognition for our achievements in expanding our partnership. In addition, we have also received grants and dollars thru the “Great Lakes Restoration Initiative” for watershed restoration. We also have a cost share agreement in place with the Backbone Ridge History Group - which is active in looking at the Historical activity on the National Forest, before the land was acquired thru the Bankhead Jones Act back in the 1940’s.

About the Region

One of the largest tourism regions in the state, New York’s Finger Lakes covers 9,000 square miles from the southern shore of Lake Ontario to the Pennsylvania border and encompasses 11 parallel lakes spanning the center of New York State like a giant handprint. The most popular lakes located in the Finger Lakes region are: Canandaigua, Cayuga, Conesus, Owasco, Otisco, Honeoye, Keuka, Seneca and Skaneateles. Although each has a name of its own, these thin glacial lakes are most often referred to as a group: the Finger Lakes.
This region includes two other famous waterways as well - the historic Erie Canal and Lake Ontario, one of America’s five, fresh-water Great Lakes - plus plenty of navigable rivers and more than 1,000 waterfalls. The 14 counties comprising the Finger Lakes region are Cayuga, Chemung, Cortland, Livingston, Monroe, Onondaga, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins, Wayne, and Yates.

From stunning scenery and important historic sites to fertile farmlands and world-class museums, from hundreds of charming villages to exciting urban centers in Rochester and Syracuse, the variety of experiences visitors can enjoy throughout the region is impressive. It is home to more than 100 wineries while offering four-season recreational activities of every description. By car or boat, whether biking or hiking: visitors soon discover that New York’s Finger Lakes can offer the perfect road trip experience and that it is truly “Splendid from Any Direction!”

**Community Information**

Rochester, Syracuse and Binghamton are all within a two-hour drive of the Forest, which is easily accessed from I-90 and I-81 and State Route 17.

Local connections to our communities are important to us on the Finger Lakes National Forest.

The forest falls within two counties, Seneca and Schuyler.

Schuyler County, NY [http://www.schuylercounty.us/](http://www.schuylercounty.us/)

Seneca County, NY [http://www.co.seneca.ny.us/](http://www.co.seneca.ny.us/)

For more information on this position please contact:

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