



News from NARRP

This content is generated by members for members. Please send us your news, reports, job announcements, manuals and personal updates that may be of interest to recreation planning professionals.

The National Association of Recreation Resource Planners

Request from a member

NPS - Chesapeake Bay Office is working on a regional strategy to increase public access throughout the watershed (300 new sites by 2025!). We are looking for recent information/data on public access need/demands, barriers and use that can be incorporated into the plan. In addition, we'd like to see other regional funding and/or implementation strategies folks may have already developed and put into play.

Much appreciated!

Heather Zahar Bennett
Outdoor Recreation Planner
National Park Service - Chesapeake Bay Office
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Learn More about Recreation Cooperatives (Rec-Coops)

Choose Outdoors is meeting at the Outdoor Retailer Show in Salt Lake City on August 4 at 10 am, in part to discuss the rec-coops concept. The essence of the meeting is to foster an ongoing dialogue with various outdoor recreation stakeholders for the "greatest good." The rec coops concept is a widely recognized model for engaging all members (e.g., visitors, land management agencies, non-profits, businesses, etc.) of the recreation community to help preserve and sustain outdoor recreation resources.

The mission of Choose Outdoors is "to promote outdoor recreation and active lifestyles through support for public lands and waters, recreation infrastructure, and programs connecting Americans to the outdoors." Its goals include unifying the outdoor recreation community in support of public lands and recreation infrastructure, and creating a long-term funding strategy to ensure the future of outdoor recreation in America.

Anyone interested in the meeting should contact Bruce Ward (bruce@chooseoutdoors.org) of Choose Outdoors.

River Management Society - Call for Workshops, Symposium Sessions, Papers and Posters

The River Management Society and Riverlink invite you to participate in the 2012 North American River Management Symposium program as a presenter, session organizer, poster session participant or special workshop coordinator. The Symposium will be held in Asheville, North Carolina from April 24-26, 2012.

Visit www.river-management.org for more information and to submit your proposal abstract(s).

We are seeking proposals that fit within one or more of the six major tracks. This year's tracks include:

- Engaging Youth—Ensuring Future Generations of River Rats: Addressing all aspects of youth engagement—whether it's pre-kindergarten kids running rivers or college kids making decisions about their flow, we want to attract and retain future river advocates, citizens well-informed about their watersheds, river managers, and maybe even aquatic scientists.

- Water Trails—Tools for Advocacy, Stewardship, Education, and Management: For nearly two decades, water trails have been sprouting up on waterways across the nation, providing access to recreational enthusiasts and instilling a connection to rivers and river communities. During this time it has become apparent that water trails can help river managers achieve goals beyond access protection and improvement, such as energizing river advocacy and stewardship, providing a vehicle for education about a culture or ecosystem, or assisting the responsible management of rivers and their adjacent lands.

- Accessing the River—From Landownership to Cyberspace: Providing access to would-be river users is a key challenge in modern river management. Access can range from fee simple ownership of riparian lands to information portals that convey much needed information about river characteristics, current condition, public facilities, and long-term trends. Providing safe, appropriate, timely access to and about rivers is a crucial component of river management.

- Got Water? Is it Clean? What About the Fish (and other critters)?: River managers everywhere are facing competing demands for water withdrawals, often accompanied by declining water quality and threats to native aquatic species. Innovative solutions are needed to combat water extraction and diversion, sources of chemical or thermal pollution, and ecological degradation due to habitat fragmentation, biological invasions, and other anthropogenic disturbances.

- Loving the River Without Loving It to Death: Changing demographics, interests, and technology are increasing the number of people on our waterways and the activities they pursue. How can managers protect the river experience and ecosystem integrity while responding to a changing America? From precedent setting user capacity decisions, to managing emerging uses like pack-rafting and power-boating, to innovative new river management plans that link communities with rivers, new challenges and opportunities are emerging relating to managing river visitors.

- A River Runs Through It: Bridges, dams, turbines, reservoirs, docks, and waterfront

developments are all examples of construction located at a river, and they all involve trade-offs. River-based infrastructure has often been viewed negatively by conservationists. Today, however, there are tools and processes to control, minimize, mitigate, or eliminate impacts of the built environment altogether. In some cases, river-based infrastructure can even enhance river values creating a win-win scenario.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Jeff Duncan, RMS Program Chair at 423-987-6127 or jeff_duncan@nps.gov or Risa Shimoda, RMS Executive Director at 301-585-4677 or executivedirector@river-management.org.

Webinar Notice – Making the Case for Trails in Tight Economic Times

American Trails webinar on "Making the Case for Trails in Tight Economic Times" will put sound ideas and hard numbers together to illustrate the contribution of trails to the prosperity of communities. Learn about some recent studies and enjoy an overview of state and national trends and statistics.

Date: Thursday, September 22, 2011

Time: 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM PDT / 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM EDT

Cost: \$25 American Trails members / \$45 non-members (all attendees will incur long distance charges)

Hosted by American Trails, Florida Office of Greenways & Trails, and the Great Allegheny Passage Trail Town® Program.

Space is limited. Learn more and reserve your webinar seat now:

<http://www.americantrails.org/resources/economics/Webinar-Economic-Benefits-Trails.html>

Webinars available from NOHVCC on land and recreation management

The National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council is creating a full selection of webinars, which will include training for government agency personnel, for OHV enthusiasts, and for others concerned with the safe and responsible use of off-highway vehicles on sustainable trail systems and areas. The first set of webinars, the "Public Land Advocacy" webinar series is now available.

Read more and register for upcoming webinars:

<http://www.nohvcc.org/Education/Webinars.aspx>

Public comment requested on proposed Rights-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines

Courtesy of American Trails

Submit comments by November 23, 2011 on the new "Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way"

From the U.S. Access Board

The Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board is proposing accessibility guidelines for the design, construction, and alteration of pedestrian facilities in the public right-of-way. The guidelines ensure that sidewalks, pedestrian street crossings, pedestrian signals, and other facilities for pedestrian circulation and use constructed or altered in the public right-of-way by state and local governments are readily accessible to and usable by pedestrians with disabilities.

When the guidelines are adopted, with or without additions and modifications, as accessibility standards in regulations issued by other federal agencies implementing the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and the Architectural Barriers Act, compliance with the accessibility standards is mandatory.

WEBINAR: AUGUST 9, 12:00- 1:30 EDT

The Board will conduct a public webinar to review the proposed rule and to discuss subjects where input from the public is sought. To register for this free webinar, visit www.accessibilityonline.org.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: SEPTEMBER 12 IN DALLAS AND NOVEMBER 9 IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Board will hold public hearings on the proposed rule in Dallas, Texas on September 12 (9:30 – 11:30) and Washington, D.C. on November 9 (9:30 – 11:30). Members of the public will have the opportunity to provide comments on the rule at these hearings. Further details will be included in the published rule.

SUBMIT COMMENTS BY NOVEMBER 23, 2011 BY ANY OF THE FOLLOWING METHODS:

- Download the full Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (pdf 3.7 mb):
<http://atfiles.org/files/pdf/AccessibleROWnprm.pdf>

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Regulations.gov ID for this docket is ATBCB-2011-0004.

- E-mail: row@access-board.gov. Include docket number ATBCB 2011-04 in the subject line of the message.

- Fax: 202-272-0081.

- Mail or Hand Delivery/Courier: Office of Technical and Informational Services, Access Board, 1331 F Street, NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20004-1111.

All comments will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided.

House version of Transportation funding: goals announced but no actual bill

From Stuart Macdonald, National Association of State Trail Administrators

Rep. Mica and the House Transportation Committee released an outline of a "Transportation Reauthorization Proposal" on July 7.

Some key points from the Mica proposal:

Consolidation or elimination of most "special" programs including RTP, Enhancements, Safe Routes, etc.

States will be permitted to fund such "non-highway activities" but will no longer be required to set aside funds

Funding is reduced from the \$50 billion authorized in 2010 to something closer to the \$35 billion in annual revenue from current fuel taxes

No date for the release of Rep. Mica's actual House bill has been set, though it had been expected as early as July 11. The apparent goal, however, is to get some kind of proposal underway. In order for any transportation legislation to be passed this fiscal year it has to be dealt with this summer in order to go to Conference with Senate in September. When the bill does appear, it will be quickly followed by markup, when the committee meets to debate and consider amendments.

The Coalition for Recreational Trails held a conference call this afternoon to discuss strategies for RTP-- which point to offering an amendment to fund RTP during markup. This would require serious commitment from enough members of Congress to challenge Rep. Mica's austere budget. While 74 members of Congress signed the recent "Dear Colleague" letter supporting RTP funding, they may bow to what they see as political realities.

A variety of groups are urging people to speak out for these programs. While it's not clear when and what kind of grassroots action might be effective, CRT members are looking at identifying people and projects that might be showcased this summer in key House districts. We'll let you know more about that as soon as possible.

A two-year Senate bill may be introduced in mid-July. Trails and bike/ped facilities have been the subject of debate between the two principal figures on transportation reauthorization. Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) has talked positively about bicycle transportation while Senator James Inhofe (R-OK), the lead Republican negotiator on the transportation bill, has been widely quoted that he would have an easier time selling to fellow Republicans a highway bill that focuses on roads and bridges. In May, Boxer outlined her goals for the Senate bill, which at that time provided \$339 billion over six years for surface transportation. That's the approximate funding level of SAFETEA-LU, the previous bill, adjusted for inflation. The six-year approach is

now down to two years on the Senate side.

More about the House proposal:

1. Funding is down - "This proposal ... authorizes approximately \$230 billion over six years from the Highway Trust Fund - funding levels consistent with the amount of revenue being collected... In 2010, the Trust Fund brought in \$35 billion in revenue, but \$50 billion in spending was authorized.... Neither Congress nor the Administration will support an increase in the gas tax. The Trust Fund cannot support a two year bill at current spending levels, as some have proposed...."

2. Trails and Bike/Ped programs--- consolidated or eliminated? - "The proposal also identifies programs that do not serve a federal interest, such as the National Historic Covered Bridge Preservation Program and the Nonmotorized Transportation Pilot Program, and eliminates them. Furthermore, states will no longer be required to spend highway funding on non-highway activities. States will be permitted to fund such activities if they choose, but they will be provided the flexibility to identify and address their most critical infrastructure needs."

Download the "Transportation Reauthorization Proposal" (pdf 1.8 mb)
<http://atfiles.org/files/pdf/micabillproposal.pdf>

Senate releases outline of transportation funding bill: MAP-21

Courtesy of American Trails

On July 19, 2011 Senators Barbara Boxer (D-CA), James Inhofe (R-OK), Max Baucus (D-MT), and David Vitter (R-LA) of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee issued an outline of draft Bipartisan legislation to reauthorize the nation's surface transportation programs, entitled Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21). MAP-21 authorizes Federal-aid highway programs for 2-years while maintaining current spending levels. MAP-21 consolidates 87 programs under SAFETEA-LU to less than 30 programs. The activities for which dedicated funding has been removed have been consolidated into the very broad core programs, leaving States with the flexibility to fund these activities as they see fit. View specific highlights from key areas of the legislation: <http://www.americantrails.org/rtp/Senate-transportation-bill-MAP-21.html>

A hearing was held in the Environment and Public Works Committee on Thursday (July 21) and a markup of the legislation is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, July 27. The EPW Committee rules state that the full legislative text of any measure scheduled for markup must be released at least 72 hours before the markup, and if this falls on a weekend (as it will for a Wednesday markup), then legislative text must be released by close of business on the Friday before the markup. So, if EPW sticks to a July 27 markup date, the full text of their bill will be out there late in the day on Friday, July 22. Once we have access to it, it will be added to the American Trails website.

County to feds: You don't have control over water

Courtesy of idahopress.com

By Mike Butts

CALDWELL — Canyon County fired its strongest shot yet in the battle over Lake Lowell recreation Friday.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife does not have authority over the water in Lake Lowell because the lake was established as an irrigation reservoir, county commissioners introduced as their argument against limiting recreation at the lake.

The action could lead to a lawsuit against the federal government, elected officials at a meeting at the county courthouse to discuss Lake Lowell recreation said.

But the manager of the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge, the agency charged by law with creating a conservation plan for the Refuge, said water rights are not the same as the authority her agency has over the lake.

“It is our mission and our responsibility to say what happens in and on the water,” Jennifer Brown-Scott said.

The draft argument was the county’s response to preliminary draft alternative conservation plans drawn up by Deer Flat officials that would limit recreation such as boating and swimming on the lake.

County deputy prosecutor Sam Laugheed read a letter to Brown-Scott from commissioners at the meeting that says since the lake was built as an irrigation reservoir, its users’ rights supersede the authority of the Fish and Wildlife Service, which oversees Deer Flat.

“We believe what’s right is right, and if we have to go to the Supreme Court, I believe Sam would do a great job in front of the Supreme Court,” Canyon County Commissioner David Ferdinand said.

Matthew Ellsworth, regional director for Idaho U.S. Sen. Jim Risch, said the conflict will likely lead to a lawsuit.

“I see them sticking to their guns,” Ellsworth said about the federal government.

Brown-Scott said she found out about the meeting through the media, and attended it on her day off.

“Unfortunately we weren’t invited to be part of the discussion,” Brown-Scott said. “It would have been nice to be here to help explain some confusion.”

Brown-Scott did contribute to the meeting when she explained that the Wildlife Refuge will accept comments even after it presents a draft plan next spring.

Commissioners took no action on a resolution to designate Lake Lowell as a Canyon County local historic property.

What the county says about Lake Lowell in its letter to the Refuge

- The primary purpose of the Lake Lowell reservoir is for irrigation. The Refuge is subordinate to that purpose.

- The federal government has no water rights in Lake Lowell. The water belongs to the consumers and the citizens of Canyon County.

WHAT OFFICIALS SAY ABOUT THE COUNTY'S ARGUMENT

"It's a compelling case and I agree with you. But I also know how the federal government acts and I don't think they'll agree with you."

— Sen. Jim Risch's regional director Matthew Ellsworth

"We may have to litigate this. We're hoping the federal government doesn't want to expend the resources. I know the citizens of the county don't want to. But if worse comes to worse that's what we'll have to do."

— Canyon County Prosecutor Bryan Taylor

"If we don't (act) in this case I think the other six refuges in Idaho and every other place will just fall in line. If you don't stop (it) here it will never stop."

— Rep. Darrell Bolz, R-Caldwell

SIMILAR CASE IN NEVADA

The laws governing the refuge system have already been tested in court. In the late 1970s, a tug-of-war between recreation and conservation came to a head at Nevada's Ruby Lake when the conservationist group Defenders of Wildlife sued the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The agency, under then-Secretary of the Interior Cecil Andrus, had attempted to preserve access for large boats and allow water skiing on the lake. Defenders of Wildlife argued the rules did not provide adequate protection for wildlife, and so violated the Refuge Recreation Act.

A federal judge ruled in favor of Defenders of Wildlife, a decision that ultimately led to strict boating restrictions and the elimination of water skiing.

Rec. trails suggested to displace squatters

Courtesy of seacoastonline.com

By Elizabeth Dinan

PORTSMOUTH — If more people use city woods for recreational purposes, fewer homeless people may use those woods for campsites, said city environmental planner Peter Britz.

"It's an urban problem, and I've not seen a lot of models for how to tackle it," he said.

Despite the lack of models, Britz said the Conservation Commission and City Council both endorse plans to create land stewardship programs and trail networks through the city's wooded

areas. If more people are using the woods, perhaps fewer people will camp there, he suggested.

"It's not a new issue," said Britz, who said concerns about the camps include a lack of bathroom facilities, trampled plants and accidental — or intentional — fires.

Donald Green, 81, was hiking in the Great Bog with two others on May 25 when the trio encountered a campsite that included four tents. Green, a 32-year Portsmouth resident who served on the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Committee on the Great Bog, Green said Monday, "I don't want them in the bog."

"I don't think anyone has the right to encamp themselves on city property unless they have special approval of the city," said Green, a University of New Hampshire professor emeritus.

Green said, if the railroad tracks were removed from the area of Banfield Road and replaced with a walking and biking path, it would invite recreational use and perhaps discourage squatters.

"I don't think there's been a train down there in more than a year," he said.

He added that the Cross Roads House homeless shelter "hasn't worked," with proof being that some "people don't want to be there."

That sentiment was recently shared by police Capt. Corey MacDonald, who told the Herald some of the city's forest dwellers stay at Cross Roads during the winter, then move to the woods for the remainder of the year. Others sleep at the shelter at night and set up camp for drinking during the day, he said. And some, according to police, live in the woods because they were barred from the shelter.

He said some of the campsites are surrounded by trip wires and booby traps designed to take intruders to the ground. Spears, spikes, machetes, knives, guns and "elaborate look-out systems" have been found at other sites, he said.

Many living in the woods have mental health and/or substance abuse problems, MacDonald said. A segment of the population is looking for shelter, he added, while for many it's "sort of the lifestyle."

One of those living the lifestyle was convicted sex offender Robert Lafrenier, a city native with local relatives who was recently living in an elaborate campsite off Heritage Avenue. He surrounded the site with a barrier of tree branches reinforced by wooden pallets, which caught fire June 7.

Firefighters were on scene for hours, first extinguishing the fire, then making sure all hot spots were doused. It's unknown if the fire was accidental or deliberate, according to the Fire Department.

Brush fires are not unusual and, Deputy Fire Chief Steve Achilles previously told the Herald, are most often associated with campsites.

Britz said he and other city officials plan to meet soon with members of the Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire to walk the Great Bog and inspect campsites to "see what's going on."

Southeast Land Trust manages much of the city-owned bog, while there's also a portion owned by the Nature Conservatory, he said. That portion is being transferred to N.H. Fish and Game and before it is, "they want to clear it out," said Britz.

Another environmental group, the Society for the Protection of N.H. Forests, plans to work with the city to develop hiking trails in the Creek Farm area near Little Harbor Road, said Britz. According to police, a man is known to be living in "a cave" in that area.

The Society for the Protection of N.H. Forests has experience building trails, and the city will solicit volunteers and other support during July or early August, said Britz. The goal, he said, will be to advertise the city's natural areas and increase the number of people who enjoy them. The plan also includes online advertising of the hiking areas and available parking and with that, he said, may come a reduction of squatters.

While not happening "at lightning speed," plans are moving forward, said Britz, adding that the Police Department is partnering "to make sure it's safe."

Deputy Police Chief Stephen DuBois mentioned Peirce Island as an example of a similar story with a successful ending. Once home to more "nefarious activity," the area is now safer because it was cleaned and is now heavily visited, he said.

"With people walking around, it's less likely that someone would go there to get out of the public eye," said DuBois.

And if trails are established in the city's wooded areas, it would be easier for police to patrol those areas and more likely members of the public will report criminal activity.

"I'm always optimistic, but we never know until we try," he said.

Green, who believes the city should "remove squatters from the Great Bog and other city properties," advocates finding alternate housing for those now living in the woods.

"If you move people out of one environment," he said, "they go to another until someone runs them out of there."

DuBois agreed.

"Ultimately," he said, "those people out there are going to go somewhere else."

According to the public police log, on Saturday, officers were called to Austin Street where "squatters" had broken into a vacant residence and "trashed it." The property was boarded up and locked.

Doctors Prescribe Hiking in National Parks

Courtesy of Trailspace.com

by Alicia MacLeay

If you're reading this, you likely know firsthand that going for a hike or walk in nature has a

positive impact on your mood and health. You just feel better after being active outdoors, better than if you'd hit the treadmill or stairmaster at the gym.

Exercise, particularly exercise outdoors, lowers stress levels and blood pressure, helps us maintain a healthy weight, and improves concentration and well-being, among many other mental and physical health benefits. It also connects us with nature.

As the positive nature-health connection gains support in medical studies, some doctors have started writing prescriptions to take a walk, hike, bicycle, or kayak in a national or local park.

National parks (like Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area), local organizations, and healthcare providers have launched Park Prescriptions, a health-promotion program in which providers prescribe contact with nature as a treatment for various conditions and encourage patients to take advantage of their parks.

Who among us wouldn't love a prescription from our doctor to go hiking? No word yet on whether insurance companies have gotten on board.

More Info:

Park Prescriptions: Prescribing Public Lands for Health from the Institute at the Golden Gate

[Park Prescriptions](#) 44-page booklet (PDF) from the Institute at the Golden Gate

["Head Out for a Daily Dose of Green Space"](#) from the 2010 *New York Times*

Dr. Daphne Miller's ["Take a hike and call me in the morning"](#) 2009 editorial in the *Washington Post*.

Job Announcement – Montana State Parks

Montana State Parks is going through some very positive change and has several diverse positions to recruit for. Please share this information with your peers and staff.

We have two park manager jobs currently open. Next week we will begin recruitment for a Park Planner position and near the end of August we will have three park warden positions open as we expand our public safety program. Keep an eye on our website or call our office (406-444-3750) for additional information.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

<https://svc.mt.gov/statejobsearch/listingdetails.aspx?id=5674>

<https://svc.mt.gov/statejobsearch/listingdetails.aspx?id=5290>

Job Announcement – National Park Service

OUTDOOR RECREATION PLANNER (SUPERVISORY)

SALARY RANGE: \$85,500.00 - \$111,148.00 /year
OPEN PERIOD: Thursday, July 21, 2011 to Thursday, August 04, 2011
SERIES & GRADE: GS-0023-13
POSITION INFORMATION: Full Time Career/Career Conditional
PROMOTION POTENTIAL: 13
DUTY LOCATIONS: 1 vacancy - Atlanta, GA
WHO MAY BE CONSIDERED: United States Citizens
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER: AT497933

JOB SUMMARY:

Experience your America and build a fulfilling career by joining the National Park Service. Become a part of our mission to unite our past, our cultures and our special places, to establish important connections to the present and build a rich and lasting legacy for future generations. Position is located in the Partnerships Division, National Park Service (NPS), Southeast Region. Partnership Division provides technical assistance to communities, guidance/assistance to NPS units and programs or park partnerships, and grants to State and local governments on outdoor recreation and recreation programs. Position manages the Recreation Programs Branch, which includes the stateside land and Water Conservation Fund Program, the Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Program and the NPS Service Challenge Cost Share Program.

DUTIES:

Supervise, manage, lead, administer the planning and grant staff, projects and related work of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Program (UPARR) and the National Park Service Challenge Cost Share Program.

Participate in formulating interdisciplinary and cross-functional approaches to the organization, planning, operation, funding, staffing, of the Partnerships Division

Establish and/or recommend annual and multi-year conservation and recreation budgets, project selection criteria and State and Local grants assistance programs

Represent agency on various National or State committees or special project groups

Direct staff (i.e. setting performance goals, assessing and accomplishing training needs, and approving personnel actions) etc.

Develop, oversee, and coordinate preparation of statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plans, statewide assessments, and recreation conservation workshops

Develop and oversee implementation of work plans for all planning efforts of the program including workforce analysis, issue identification, assignment of personnel, financial allocations, program

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

<http://jobview.usajobs.gov/GetJob.aspx?JobID=100879883&JobTitle=Outdoor+Recreation+Planner+%28Supervisory%29&q=&where=atlanta+ga&brd=3876&vw=b&FedEmp=Y&FedPub=Y&x=0&y=0&pg=8&re=4&AVSDM=2011-07-21+00%3a03%3a00>

Job Announcement – National Park Service

OUTDOOR RECREATION PLANNER

SALARY RANGE: \$73,408.00 - \$95,429.00 /year
OPEN PERIOD: Monday, July 25, 2011 to Friday, August 05, 2011
SERIES & GRADE: GS-0023-12
POSITION INFORMATION: Full Time Career/Career Conditional
PROMOTION POTENTIAL: 12
DUTY LOCATIONS: 1 vacancy - Philadelphia Metro area, PA
WHO MAY BE CONSIDERED: United States Citizens
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER: GETT-11-91DEU (505454)

JOB SUMMARY:

Experience your America and build a fulfilling career by joining the National Park Service. Become a part of our mission to unite our past, our cultures and our special places, to establish important connections to the present and build a rich and lasting legacy for future generations. For more information about the National Park Service, click [National Park Service](#).

DUTIES:

This position is located in Natural Resources and Science - Conservation and Recreation Assistance, Northeast Region and is duty stationed in Philadelphia, PA. The purpose of the position is to oversee and implement the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), a national planning and grants program, and Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Program (UPARR). The LWCF is a national planning and grants program that assists eligible governmental units in the provision of the new park areas. It is a matching assistance program that provides grants for up to 50% of the cost for the acquisition and/or development of outdoor recreation sites and facilities. The UPARR is a matching federal grant program administered by the National Park Service that provides funding for the rehabilitation of deteriorating parks and recreation facilities in cities and urban counties. The incumbent administers these programs which includes 13 States and the District of Columbia.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

<http://jobview.usajobs.gov/GetJob.aspx?JobID=100944970&JobTitle=Outdoor+Recreation+Planner&q=Outdoor+recreation+planner&where=philadelphia&x=0&y=0&brd=3876&vw=b&FedEmp=Y&FedPub=Y&AVSDM=2011-07-25+00%3a03%3a00>

Outreach Notice – USDA Forest Service

Boise National Forest
GS-0401-9 Natural Resource Specialist (Recreation)
Lowman, ID

The Boise National Forest will soon be advertising for one GS-0401-9 Recreation Specialist position for the Lowman Ranger District, with the duty station located in Lowman, Idaho. The target grade is GS-9, but the District will consider outreach responses for GS-7. Depending on the outreach response, referral lists will be considered in both the Merit and Demo categories. All interested applicants should apply via AVUE under the following OCR.

Demo candidates should apply to: PERM-OCR-0401-57911-NAT-DP
Merit candidates should apply to: PERM-OCR-0401-57911-NAT-G

This position will close on or about August 12th.

POSITION INFORMATION

The recreation program on the Boise National Forest is operated under a zone concept. Multiple ranger districts are managed by a zoned GS-11 Recreation Manager. The "North Zone" is comprised of the Cascade, Lowman, and Emmett Ranger Districts. The incumbent is primarily responsible for recreation on the Lowman Ranger District, but may have other duties or assignments within the North Zone. The incumbent will lead a challenging recreation program that provides a wide range of quality recreation experiences, primarily to a growing population in the Boise metropolitan area. Management areas include developed/dispersed recreation, trails program, outfitter-guide administration (river), a large campground host program, travel management, and snowmobile patrol program.

Supervision And Leadership – This position provides supervision for up to 20 employees/volunteer hosts each season including two permanent-seasonal positions. The program currently has a very high retention rate. The district has been highly successful in annually acquiring recreation funding from outside sources.

Developed Recreation – The district manages all developed recreation sites which include 14 campgrounds (no concessionaires). Most developed sites have seen moderate to extensive renovation in the last 10 years, and the district currently has a consistent facility maintenance program. Campgrounds range in size from 5 to 40 units and generate approximately \$70,000 annually. Natural hot springs are co-located by three campgrounds and these sites have local and regional acclaim. The district has 3 cabins that are available for winter rental.

Trails/Backcountry – There are approximately 200 miles of trails on the district. The district is well known for quality single-track motorcycle trails and hosted the Idaho State Ride in 2005. The district currently has one of the few fully motorized trail crews in the region that consists of 3-5 trail crew members. Volunteer groups and the Idaho State Trail Rangers also make important annual contributions to the trail program. The very popular Red Mtn. Lakes area provides a highly utilized non-motorized backcountry experience in an alpine setting.

Outfitter-Guide Administration – This position administers six outfitter-guide special use permits on the Payette River System. Although commercial and private use on the river system is growing, use is still relatively limited on most segments. The South Fork and Main Payette Rivers (Class III-IV) provide a long commercial whitewater season from late-May into September.

Boise NF Page - <http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise/recreation/index.shtml>

ABOUT THE LOWMAN RANGER DISTRICT AND BOISE NATIONAL FOREST

The Boise National Forest consists of over 2,600,000 acres. The Lowman District is one of five districts, and covers 479,000 acres. The District is adjacent to the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness and the Sawtooth National Recreation Area. The community of Lowman is approximately 3,800 feet in elevation and 75 miles northeast of the Supervisor's Office in Boise, Idaho.

LOWMAN COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Lowman is a small mountain community that has grown up along 12 miles of the South Fork of the Payette River, along State Highway 21. Recreation opportunities abound. Depending on the season, you may hike, ride horseback, bike, motorcycle, ATV, cross-country ski, snow shoe, or snowmobile on beautiful trails. Camping, fishing, hunting, and sight-seeing are popular activities. The South Fork of the Payette River is considered one of the premier whitewater, kayaking, and rafting rivers in the country. After a hard day's work or play, there are numerous hot springs to soak in. There are approximately 200 year round residents in the community and the summer population swells with visitors.

HOUSING AVAILABLE

There may be government housing available with this opportunity, although it may be limited in single family, commuter, and crew quarters. There are private homes or mobile homes for sale or rent in the immediate vicinity, although there are numerous homes available in the nearby communities of Garden Valley and Crouch, approximately 25 miles from the District office.

SCHOOLS

There is a one-room elementary school for grades K-6. Grades 7-12 ride a bus 24 miles to Garden Valley, which has a school for grades K-12. The nearest universities/colleges are located in Boise, the capitol of Idaho, and its surrounding Treasure Valley area.

CHURCHES

There is one church in Lowman, a non-denominational church that conducts Sunday services year round. There are also several community churches, a Catholic church, and an LDS church located in Garden Valley.

MEDICAL & FIRE SERVICES

The Lowman Ambulance is staffed by local volunteer basic level EMTs, and is available 24 hours a day. Advanced life support is available by medical helicopters from Boise. The closest medical clinic is located in Garden Valley, which is staffed with a Physician and a Physician's Assistant. Medical clinics are also available in Idaho City and Stanley, both about an hour away. The closest hospitals are in Boise, two hours away. A local volunteer fire department serves the Lowman community.

AREA BUSINESSES

There are several businesses located in Lowman that provide the following services: 2 motels; 2 café/restaurants; 1 general store; and 2 gas stations. Additional small-town services are available in Garden Valley, Idaho City, and Stanley. Boise has all the amenities of a capitol city with over a quarter million people.

CONTACT

If you are interested in the Lowman District Recreation position, please contact D. John Kidd, District Ranger, jkidd@fs.fed.us or (208) 259-3361, or Jennifer Hensiek, North Zone Recreation Manager at jhensiek@fs.fed.us or (208) 382-7460.