The Rifle Ranger District of the White River National Forest will soon be advertising a Natural Resource Specialist (Recreation, Lands, and Special Uses) position on the Rifle Ranger District. This is a permanent full time position, located on the Rifle Ranger District in Rifle, CO. This position serves as the primary staff for recreation, lands, and special-uses for the Rifle Ranger District.

This outreach is being circulated to inform prospective applicants of the upcoming opportunity and to identify the level of interest in the position.

**Primary Duties Involve:**

- Provide expertise and administration of recreation, lands, and special use programs and projects
- Provide overall leadership to Rifle recreation program including project and program development and budget duties.
- Participate in the Forest’s recreation working group to help develop Forest-level priorities and program of work.
- Supervise one permanent 13/13 Forestry Technician and multiple seasonal employees
- Administer to standard special use permits for outfitter and guides, recreation events, ditches, and other uses
- Provides expert advice, guidance and technical support to employees, volunteers and partners in regards to managing Forest Service lands to meet health and safety standards.
- Maintain and enhance partnerships with local governments, stakeholders, and user groups
- District contact for all recreation related activities, questions and support including NEPA
- Be willing to work across resource boundaries, be part of a dynamic and challenging district and forest, take on challenges and provide innovative solutions
About the White River National Forest:
The White River National Forest is 2.3 million acres in central Colorado. The Supervisor's Office is located in Glenwood Springs with District offices in Meeker, Rifle, Carbondale, Aspen, Eagle, Minturn, and Silverthorne. Currently, the White River employs approximately 150 permanent employees and 150 temporary employees. The White River National Forest is one of the crown jewels of the National Forest System. It hosts over 12 million visitors per year. With 12 ski resorts, the White River is the premier place for winter recreation and is a destination for people from around the globe. The forest has a full complement of resource challenges and opportunities including recreation, wilderness, travel management, oil and gas development, grazing, forest and watershed health, and fuels and fire mitigation. [http://www.fs.usda.gov/whiteriver](http://www.fs.usda.gov/whiteriver)

About Rifle Ranger District
The Rifle Ranger District is approximately 300,000 acres and stretches from the Colorado River Valley north to the Flat Tops Wilderness and south to the Battlements and Grand Mesa. District elevations range from 5,000 to 11,000 feet and the predominant vegetation ranges from sagebrush and pinion-juniper in the lower elevations to lodgepole pine, Engelmann spruce and aspen at the higher elevations. District programs focus on developed and dispersed summer and winter recreation (including snowmobiling and cross country ski trails), timber, grazing, oil and gas development, and special uses.

Recreation opportunities on the Rifle Ranger District include almost 200 miles of hiking and horse trails, 30+ miles of mountain bike trails, and 150 miles of groom snowmobile and winter sport trails. Hunting and fishing are popular throughout the district and the White River national Forest. The Rifle Ranger District recreation staff manages approximately 80 special use permits (lands, recreation, military, and resort). Also on the district are two campgrounds and the Cayton Guard Station National Historic Register Site. We have a well-developed network of partners who contributed over 8000+hrs of volunteer labor in 2015!

Community
The District office is located at the north end of the city of Rifle, Colorado.

Rifle has a population of about 10,000 people and is a rapidly growing community. There are a number of smaller communities in the area, including Parachute, Silt, and New Castle. The city of Glenwood Springs is about 25 miles to the east and Grand Junction, the largest city on the western slope, is about 65 miles west of Rifle. All the towns mentioned are located on I70.

Summer temperatures may extend into the 90s and winter lows occasionally dip below zero, with daytime temps in the 30s-40s. The relative humidity is low throughout the year and annual precipitation is about 20 inches.

Housing rentals range from $700 to $1400 per month for a two to three bedroom. Many people live in Rifle and commute to Glenwood Springs and other areas because of the high real estate prices in those communities east of Rifle. Family homes in the area start at about $175,000.

There is a hospital in Rifle as well as in Glenwood Springs and Grand Junction. There are also a number of medical, dental, and physical therapy clinics, offering a wide variety of health care.
A consolidated school system provides elementary schools, middle schools, and a high school in Rifle and Parachute and one being built east of Silt. Colorado Mountain College offers community classes and adult education opportunities in Rifle, Glenwood Springs, and Parachute.

Child care services are offered in most communities, but are in high demand and sometimes have waiting lists.

Churches of most denominations and faiths are represented in the communities in the area.

Regular commercial air service is available from Grand Junction, DIA in Denver, Eagle and Aspen. Amtrak train service is accessible from Grand Junction or Glenwood Springs and Greyhound bus service is also available.

Rifle and nearby cities offer many outdoor recreation opportunities. There is downhill and cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, mountain biking, kayaking, rafting, hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, and rock climbing.

A variety of cultural activities are available as well. Rifle has a movie theater, health club, golf course, and sports leagues, as well as a number of fine restaurants, fast food chains, and many chain stores including, Starbucks, Walmart, Sonic, and Radio Shack, etc. The larger cities to the east and west offer more shopping, restaurants, theaters, concerts, etc.

For further information go to http://riflechamber.com/ or contact the Rifle Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 20 Lions Park Circle, Rifle, CO. 81650. Their phone number is 970-625-2085.

**How to Apply:** This announcement is to outreach the position only.

When advertised, the vacancy announcement for this position will be posted on the U.S. Government's official website for employment opportunities: [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov). Anyone who wishes to be considered for this position must apply on USAJOBS website by the closing date of this vacancy announcement. The Referral List for this position will be issued to the hiring manager upon closing of the vacancy announcement. All applicants found to be qualified, and placed in the quality group will be referred for consideration.

Fill out the form below and attach your resume and/or employee profile to Sarah Hankens, Rifle District Ranger (shankens@fs.fed.us). For more information about the position contact Sarah Hankens at 970-625-6840.
Name: ________________________________________________________________
Email Address: ________________________________________________________
Phone Number: __________________________ Work, Home or Mobile?
Employer: FS Unit________________________ Other ________________________________
Location: __________________________________________________________________
Tour: Permanent ____ Temporary____ Student/Intern____ Contractor____ Other_____
Current Position Title: __________________________________________________________
Series/grade if Federal Employee: __________________________
How did you hear about this position? _____________________________________________
Agency Contact_____________________________ Other_____________________________
If not a current permanent employee, are you eligible to be hired under any of the following special
authorities?
_____ Schedule A (Person with Disabilities)
_____ Veterans Readjustment
_____ Veterans w/30% Compensable Disability
_____ Veterans Employment Opportunities Act Of 1998
_____ Former Peace Corps Volunteer
_____ Pathways Program (Students and Recent Graduates)
_____ Other ________________________________________________
Additional Information: