Interested applicants should complete the Outreach Form included in the attached document and email it to Brad Bolton, Guadalupe District Ranger, at blbolton@fs.fed.us. Responses are requested by February 4, 2016.

ABOUT THE POSITION
This position serves as the Forest-wide Cave Specialist and the Cave Ecosystem Program Manager. The position responsibilities are very complex, covering all technical cave related matters across the Lincoln NF (including 3 Districts encompassing more than a million acres and 250 caves). The responsibilities also include managing the Forest-wide program including budgeting, permitting, NEPA compliance, partnership building, educational outreach, interagency work-teams and interfacing with the Forest Supervisor, the Supervisor’s staff and the Regional Office.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
Those who are interested must meet the qualification requirements for the GS-0401 series that is covered by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Qualification Standards for General Schedule Positions – GS-0401 Biological Scientist. The OPM Qualification Standards Handbook Manual is available for review at any federal personnel office or on the Internet at: https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/classification-qualifications/general-schedule-qualification-standards/0400/forestry-series-0460/

Job specific duties include high technical skill in all aspects of vertical and horizontal caving, the ability to educate others in technical skill, and the ability to maintain a caving cache of equipment to the highest safety standards.

LOCATION
The position is located in the Guadalupe District Office, Carlsbad, NM and is supervised by the Guadalupe District Ranger. Frequent travel of distances 1-3 hours from the office is required in a government furnished vehicle. The vast majority of Lincoln NF caves are located 1-2 hours from Carlsbad on the Guadalupe Ranger District.

DUTIES
- Administer the Backcountry Recreation Caving Program and ‘safety first’ program
- Facilitate all cave entry by Forest Service employees, contractors, and researchers
- Co-manage Fort Stanton Cave through an agreement with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- Coordinate cave training for Forest Service employees, Trip Leaders and large volunteer groups
- Coordinate cave ecosystem monitoring, and the cave education program
- Build and maintain partnerships with local caving groups, universities and outside agencies
- Build and maintain caving equipment caches, and a program budget
- Contribute cave information to ongoing Forest Plan Revision process
THE FOREST
The Lincoln National Forest is known as the birthplace of the world-famous Smokey Bear, the symbol of the campaign to prevent forest fires. The original Smokey Bear is buried in Capitan, New Mexico. The Lincoln covers approximately 1.1 million acres and consists of three Ranger Districts - Smokey Bear (D1), Sacramento (D2), and Guadalupe (D3). There are three major mountain ranges that cover 1,103,441 acres in southeastern New Mexico - Sacramento, Guadalupe, and Capitan. Elevations of 4,000 to 11,500 feet pass through five different life zones from Chihuahuan desert to subalpine forest. Vegetation ranges from rare cacti in the lower elevations to Englemann spruce in the higher elevations.

More people enjoy the Lincoln National Forest and the surrounding areas for recreation use than for all other uses combined. In the summer, climatic relief provided by the mountains draws people from surrounding deserts and plains. However, the Forest offers the user a variety of recreational opportunities any season of the year. The Lincoln National Forest can provide the recreational experience you are seeking, whether you enjoy sight-seeing, wildlife watching, picnicking, camping, hiking, hunting, fishing, mountain biking, horseback riding, motorcycling, snowmobiling, alpine or cross country skiing, or caving.

Supervisor's Office
Located in Alamogordo, New Mexico, the Supervisor’s Office moved to a new, leased facility in September 2008. The 19,900 square foot building houses approximately 80 employees from four Agencies under the Department of Agriculture:

- Lincoln National Forest
- Natural Resource and Conservation Service
- Farm Service Agency
- Otero Soil and Water Conservation District

It is the most energy efficient USDA “Green” building to date in southern New Mexico. The “Green” construction will save the taxpayer money through water efficiency; energy and atmosphere; materials and resources; and indoor environmental quality. The building is expected to save 50-70 percent energy cost as compared to a typical building.

Smokey Bear Ranger District - D1
Headquarters for the Smokey Bear Ranger District is in Ruidoso, New Mexico. The District manages approximately 375,000 acres and ranges in elevation from 5,400 to 11,580 feet. Ski Apache Resort, one of the largest ski areas in the Southwest, is located on the District.

There are two wilderness areas on the District, totaling approximately 86,000 acres. One can find a variety of trails winding through the White Mountain Wilderness offering unique recreational opportunities and views for the equestrians and hikers. The Capitan Mountain Wilderness is best known as the place where Smokey Bear was found in 1950. The Capitan Mountains represent a geologic anomaly in the western hemisphere in that it is one of the few ranges that run east and west. Most of the area is steep and rocky, except for open meadows along the main ridge top. The east end of the range has many outcroppings and is very rough terrain.

A combination of high elevation and abundant moisture results in a beautiful array of color from flowering plants during the summer months. Perhaps the most beautiful time of year is in the fall, when oaks, maples, and aspens wrap the mountain slopes in breathtaking colors. Deer, turkey, elk and black bear are just a few of the wildlife roaming the District.

The towns of Lincoln, where one of the famous shoot-outs of Billy the Kid took place, and Capitan, the burial site of Smokey Bear, are conveniently located near the District.
**Sacramento Ranger District – D2**
The Sacramento Ranger District is headquartered in Cloudcroft, New Mexico, and manages over 450,000 acres in elevations ranging from 4,600 to 9,695 feet.

Between Cloudcroft and Alamogordo on U.S. 82 is the only highway tunnel in southern New Mexico. A parking area just west of the tunnel affords a spectacular view of Fresnal Canyon, White Sands, and the Tularosa Basin. Near Cloudcroft is another developed interpretive site where visitors can look back in time at the old railroad trestle spanning the Mexican Canyon.

The Sacramento District invites the hikers to the rails to trails and Railroad Depot visitors' area to learn the history of the "Cloud Climbing Railroad" that facilitated timber harvest at the turn of the century. Travelers will find spectacular views of sunsets across the desert as well as breathtaking views of the Tularosa Basin and White Sands National Monument from the Sunspot Scenic Byway. The Byway leads to the Sunspot Solar Observatory at Sacramento Peak and the Apache Point Lunar Observatory. These are unique, educational attractions for visitors. The Forest is a partner in the education/visitors center at Sunspot.

Higher elevations offer mountain meadows, mixtures of pine, fir, aspen, oak, and other vibrant greens which are broken by the brilliance of wildflowers, blossoming plants, and trees that change with the season.

Wildlife is abundant on the District. Deer, elk, turkey, quail, bear, and many types of birds (including the threatened Mexican spotted owl) and small animals live on the Forest.

**Guadalupe Ranger District – D3**
The Guadalupe Ranger District office is located in Carlsbad, New Mexico. The Guadalupe Mountains range in elevation from 3,500 to 7,500 feet. The District contains more than 200 world-class caves and deep, rough canyons. Caving is a very popular activity in the Guadalupe Mountains. The southernmost tip of the District includes approximately 35 square miles of rugged mountains and canyons, which is a massive exposure of the ancient Capitan Barrier reef. The reef, a limestone formation, was created from lime secreted by algae when this area was covered by a shallow sea. The sea dissipated and the reef uplifted, resulting in extensive cavern systems formed within the reef, with magnificent and curious formations.

Wildlife and plant life are diverse and abundant. Turkey, deer, elk, and a variety of bird life are present along with coyotes, mountain lions, raccoons, squirrels, bobcats, skunks, badgers, and porcupines. Fishing is non-existent in the District but is available in the Pecos River near Carlsbad.

Pinyon and juniper are the predominate trees with grasses, brush, and cacti. The southern portion consists of deep canyons and sheer cliffs. Vegetation is pinyon, juniper, oak, pine, fir, and Texas Madrone trees with ground cover of grasses and cacti.

Sitting Bull Falls is another natural wonder that brings an oasis into the high desert's dry climate.

**Carlsbad, NM Information**
**Location:** Carlsbad is located in southeast New Mexico on Highways 285, and 62-180. From El Paso, Hwy 62-180 E, through the Guadalupe Mountains will lead to Carlsbad. From Albuquerque, I-40 E to 285 S will lead to Carlsbad.
**Population:** 30,000 year round residents, with up to an additional 30,000 people, depending on oil and gas production.
**Elevation:** 3,200 feet.
Economic Background: The economy is heavily oriented toward oil and gas production and potash mining.

Governmental: The community is governed by a mayor, six council members, and a city manager/planner. The local community is served by city police, sheriff’s department, and local fire departments both full time and volunteer.

Transportation: the Carlsbad City Airport has limited daily flights. A municipal shuttle service is available within city limits.

Housing: There are single family homes for sale in the area ranging in price from $50,000 to $400,000 and up. Rental housing, apartments and duplexes are limited, as are lots for mobile and pre-built homes during times of heightened oil and gas production. The area has many realty agents available to assist you in locating housing. Government housing is available (Queen, NM, roughly 42 miles west of Carlsbad).

Utilities: All common and expected utilities are available in Carlsbad. Outlying communities typically provide water through a Co-op.

Lodging: There are 20 active Hotels/Motels within Carlsbad, with others still under construction. There are several RV parks within the area as well.

Communication: In addition to communication resources from the rest of the state, Carlsbad has a local newspaper, radio stations, various cable and satellite providers, and various home phone and cell phone providers.

Education: Carlsbad Municipal School District currently has 11 elementary schools, one Sixth Grade Academy, two middle schools, one Ninth Grade Academy and one high school. Additionally, Jefferson Montessori Academy, and other private educational entities are present.

Financial: There are many financial institutions available, including local and large corporate institutions.

Medical: Care is provided by Carlsbad Medical Center, with an ER and Heliport for emergency transport. There are various care physicians available to residents with whom are not affiliated with the medical facility, in addition to, but not limited to, dentists, orthodontists, and specialized orthopedic and gastrointestinal physicians.

Churches: There are many religious facilities throughout Carlsbad, with most of the denominations represented.

Shopping Facilities: Locally, there are large supermarkets, Walmart, Lowes, Sutherland’s, McCoy’s, various hardware stores, florists, furniture stores, clothing retail, antique and gift shops, several automotive dealerships, and other specialty stores.

Recreational Opportunities: Watercraft, water skiing, fishing in the Pecos River. Hiking trails in the Guadalupe Ranger District, hunting, Carlsbad Caverns, bird watching, bat watching, and dirt motor way. Movie theatres including a drive in, library, and summer recreational sport activities are available. Carlsbad has several art shows, antique car shows and local business festivals.

Weather: Carlsbad is known for extremely mild winters and summer temperatures averaging 92-93 degrees. Spring and fall months are typically mild-warm. Spring months are fairly windy and monsoons usually arrive around the beginning of July.

Chamber of Commerce may be reached via internet at: http://www.carlsbadchamber.com/pages/CityofCarlsbad/

OUTREACH RESPONSE
Interested applicants, or those desiring further information, should contact the Guadalupe District Ranger, Brad Bolton at blbolton@fs.fed.us or by phone at (575) 885-4181. Responses are requested no later than February 4, 2016.

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OUTREACH NOTICE
Due February 4, 2016
Permanent Position or
120 Temporary Detail
Cave Specialist / Program Manager

Position Title: Biological Scientist
Series/Grade: GS-0401-5/7/9
Location: Carlsbad, New Mexico

Applicant Information
Name: ____________________________  E-Mail Address: ____________________________
Mailing Address: ____________________________
Current Title, Series, Grade: ____________________________
Current Organization/Location: □ USFS  □ NPS  □ BLM  □ Other
Current Appointment: □ Permanent  □ Temporary  □ Term  □ Not Current Employee

If you are NOT a current permanent (career or career conditional) employee, are you eligible to be hired under any of the following authorities?
□ Person With Disabilities  □ Veteran’s Employment Opportunities Act of 1998
□ Veteran Recruitment Act  □ Former Peace Corps Volunteer
□ Disabled Veterans With 30% Compensable Disability  □ Student Career Experience Program
□ Other

Please feel free to attach a resume or other supporting document to this outreach response form; however, it is not required and may not increase your chance for selection.