

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Prescribed Fire Specialist
Department: Fuels Management
Reports To: Fuels Specialist
Location: Fire Management (Old Agency)
Status: Seasonal, Part Time
Salary Range: \$20-\$23 DOE

INTRODUCTION:

The primary purpose of this position is to have the incumbent serve as a technical staff specialist within the Forestry - Fuels Program under the direct supervision of the Fuels Specialist and is responsible for coordination, planning and on the ground implementation of prescribed fire projects. This is a Journeyman level position within the Fuels Program for the Coeur d'Alene Reservation. The incumbent directs and coordinates prescribed fire planning activities, collects information for documentation, analysis, and prediction of fire behavior and effects and for writing and implementing burn plans. The incumbent will lead various natural resources staff in prescribed fire operations.

Prior firefighting experience as gained by substantial services as a wildland firefighter is MANDATORY.

I. ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: Prescribed Fire Planning

1. Develops prescribed burn plans according to BIA guidelines to ensure plan objectives can be met from a fire management standpoint and schedules for management ignited fire activities.
2. Implements and directs prescribed burns, as qualified.
3. Uses BEHAVE, FOFEM, and other specialized computer programs to predict fire behavior under a variety of conditions.
4. Plans and directs prescribed fire monitoring for the collection, analysis, and documentation of data relating to fire effects on fuel loading and condition class.
5. Plans and directs studies which monitor and analyze fire behavior parameters which include rate of spread, fire intensity, and fire weather for prescribed fires and wildfires.
6. Assists in collecting data for a variety of fuel-monitoring projects, including stand exams, fuel line transects, and fire regime condition classifications.
7. Responsible for record keeping associated with prescribed burn planning and fire weather.
8. Responsible for reviewing staff on prescribed and/or fire assignments with the expectation of signing off on assigned task books as appropriate.
9. Maintains a valid government driver's license and operates government-owned or leased vehicles.
10. Performs other related duties as assigned.

II. QUALIFICATIONS

1. Able to pass an annual fire physical and an arduous pack test (45lbs. for 3 miles under 45 minutes).
2. Five years of specialized work experience demonstrating an understanding of fire effects on cultural and natural resources, prescribed fire/fuels management activities, and fire management operations.
3. Must maintain a valid state driver's license and be tribally insurable.
4. Technical proficiency with the Microsoft Office suite of products, geographic information systems, and global positioning systems.
5. The following NWCG Incident Management Qualifications supported by a current Red Card, are REQUIRED of this position:
 - A. Command: Incident Commander, Type 4 or higher (ICT4 or higher); AND
 - B. Prescribed Fire: Prescribed Fire Burn Boss, Type 2 (RXB2) or higher

III. EDUCATION and/or EXPERIENCE

Substantial service as a primary Federal wildland firefighter or in a similar firefighting position outside the Federal government.

1. Bachelor's degree in biological sciences, agriculture, natural resources, or a related discipline appropriate to the position being filled; OR
2. Twenty-four (24) semester hours of college course work obtained in biological sciences, agriculture, natural resources, wildland fire management, forestry, or agriculture. Educational coursework MUST include a minimum of eighteen (18) semester hours of upper division (junior/senior) course work; AND twenty-four (24) months of experience that supplements the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills and abilities to perform successfully the duties of the position.
3. One year of creditable specialized experience which has provided the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to successfully function in the wildland fire management position applied for. Possession of the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities can be evidenced by:
 - A. Experience that demonstrates understanding of fire effects on cultural and natural resources. The assignments MUST have shown participation in activities such as developing prescribed burn plans to ensure plan objectives can be met from a fire management standpoint and conducting field inspections before and after prescribed fire to determine if objectives have been met.
 - B. Prescribed fire/fuels management-experience in activities such as:
 - I. Inventory methods and procedures.
 - II. Fuels treatment methods and programming.
 - III. Writing and evaluating prescribed fire plans to ensure plan objectives can be met.
 - C. Prescribed Fire Management operations-analyzing and implementing fire management strategies to safely accomplish burn objectives.

IV. SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES

Direct supervision of the position is provided by the Fuels Specialist or his designee. During prescribed fire implementation, incumbent supervises burn crews of up to 20 individuals. The incumbent will be required to supervise, train, and sign off on wildland and prescribed fire task books.

V. GUIDELINES:

Guidelines include Management Plans, precedents, Tribal and BIA policies, guidelines and procedures, and/or adopted protocol and other established standards and guidelines for performing the work. The employee works in strict adherence to the guidelines, referring needed deviations or questions to the supervisor while performing work activities.

Assignments involve various duties concerned with operational effects of fuels and fire treatments on tribal natural resources.

Incumbent performs a variety of routine tasks during the implementation of prescribed burns and suppression of wildland fires. This work requires the employee to recognize which of several techniques and procedures is best suited to the specific situation encountered. Actions taken vary dependent upon the terrain, intensity of fire, fuel availability, wind speed and resource values.

VI. SCOPE AND EFFECT:

The purpose of the work is to assist/lead implementation of prescribed fire in the forested landscape of the Coeur d'Alene Reservation in accordance with the Fuels Management Plan, Fire Management Plan, and Forest Management Plan; and ensure the effective protection of the Tribe's natural resources through effective fuels management.

The work affects the protection of life, property and forest resources on the Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation.

VII. PERSONAL AND PURPOSE OF CONTACTS:

Contacts are primarily with the Fuels Specialist and others in the forestry organization. Contacts are made to exchange information about the immediate work situation in which crew members are to receive instructions and to clarify how the work is to be done.

VIII. PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

Arduous: Duties involve rigorous fieldwork requiring above average physical performance, endurance and superior conditioning. Work requires prolonged standing, walking over uneven ground, and recurring bending, reaching, lifting and carrying of items weighing over 50 pounds and shared lifting and carrying of heavier items, and similar strenuous activities requiring at least average agility and dexterity. Duties include demands for strenuous activities in emergencies under adverse environmental conditions and over extended periods of time. Operation of some specialized fire equipment can place extended physical stress on incumbent during fire activities. Incumbent is subject to medical examination and must pass the work capacity test for arduous positions.

IX. WORK ENVIRONMENT:

The work is primarily performed outdoors in forest environments in steep terrain where surfaces may be extremely uneven, rocky or covered by vegetation. Temperatures may exceed 100 degrees F and fall well below freezing. Risks include dust, smoke inhalation, fire entrapment, snake or insect bites and stings, exposure to excessive machinery noise and falling and rolling material. Personnel must adjust and cope with exposure to weather elements, dust and smoke, poor work situations under an unpredictable set of circumstances. The hazardous nature of certain jobs requires that protective clothing be worn (hard hat, gloves, leather boots, flame resistant clothing and other personal protective equipment). Work requires travel by vehicle and/or foot.

Additional work time is performed indoors writing and developing prescribed burn plans.

X. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT:

The incumbent is required to supply their own work boots and appropriate work clothing. Boots are to be ALL leather with a vibram sole, tops to be a minimum of 8 inches (inside measure) and heels must be 1.5 inches in height. Long work pants and a work shirt are required for all project work. The Tribe will supply work gloves, hard hats, work glasses, and hearing protection. For fire work, the Tribe will issue Personal Protective Equipment, that meets BIA Bluebook standards, which is to be worn only when performing fire related duties.

XI. OTHER:

Must not have been convicted of a felony involving dishonesty within the past five years. The Coeur d'Alene Tribe reserves the right to hire according to its Indian Preference Policy. Applicants are subject to a pre-employment drug test and at-random testing following employment. Positions with the Coeur d'Alene Tribe are subject to a six-month orientation period.

An applicant may be asked to participate in an interview to establish whether he/she meets minimum qualifications. Interviews do not create a right to employment and provide no promise or other guarantee of any employment position with the Tribe.

The Coeur d'Alene Tribe reserves the right to hire according to its Indian Preference Policy.
Applicants are subject to a pre-employment drug test and at-random testing following employment.
Positions with the Coeur d'Alene Tribe are subject to a 6-month orientation period.

To apply, submit an application and resume to: Human Resources Department, P.O. Box 408, Plummer Idaho 83851 or fax to 208/686-6216. Applicant must submit a copy of their driver's license, wildland fire training certificates and wildland fire redcard with their application. For more information, visit our website at www.cdatribe-nsn.gov/hr.shtml or call 208/686-4068.