



# OUTREACH NOTICE

**USDA FOREST SERVICE**  
**Tonto National Forest – Mesa, AZ**  
**Natural Resource Specialist, GS-0401-05/07/09**  
**(Geographic Information Systems (GIS) focused)**  
**Permanent Position**

**Respond by March 27, 2020**

This notification is being circulated to inform prospective applicants of upcoming job opportunities. Notification of availability of the vacancy announcement will follow when posted in USAJobs.

## **Positions to be Advertised/Duty Station**

The Tonto National Forest is currently recruiting to fill a Natural Resource Specialist (GIS focused), GS-0401-05/07/09 positions. Duty station of the position is Mesa, AZ.

This position will be filled either through the Pathways Recent Graduate program or a Merit Promotion announcement (open to current or former federal employees and special hiring authorities). Both types of vacancy announcements will run concurrently.

The vacancy announcements are anticipated to open on March 29, 2020 but further information will be provided in the Forest Service Outreach Database and directly to respondents of this outreach.

## **Outreach Response:**

Interested applicants or those desiring further information should contact the following person and can submit the attached Outreach Notice Response Form to:

Theresa Nallick, Forest GIS Program Manager  
Email: [theresa.nallick@usda.gov](mailto:theresa.nallick@usda.gov)  
Phone: 602-225-5338

Please respond by March 27, 2020.

## **Position Duties:**

At the trainee level, receives assignments that consist of specific, well defined tasks that typically are designed to orient them to the professional work related to Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

At the full performance level, has responsibility for supporting managers and resource specialists in the use of geospatial technology and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for land, natural resources and ecosystem management. This position provides GIS support primarily for the South Zone of the Tonto NF.

Major Duties: Data Management, Geospatial Analysis, Map Design, Metadata Development, GIS and Mobile App Training and Support

The incumbent works with managers, resource specialists and external customers to develop and analyze forest geospatial data. Assists with the organization and maintenance of resource information and data to facilitate analysis across multiple disciplines including (but not limited to) recreation, range, silviculture, planning, engineering, fire, and natural resources. Performs multi-scale and/or multi-resource analysis in support of planning, analysis and monitoring activities. Compiles natural resource, topographic and cartographic data for creation of thematic map products and presentation materials for multi-disciplinary resource management planning, preparation of environmental and social assessments and other projects supporting natural resource decision-making. Operates complex computer systems and software packages and uses established procedures to produce maps and graphics for many programs. The Forest is utilizing emerging technologies and tools such as ArcGIS Online (AGOL), Collector and Survey 123.

### **About the Forest:**

The Tonto National Forest is an “urban forest” and is directly adjacent to the Phoenix Metropolitan Area. It is one of the most heavily visited forests in the nation. From the desert to the tall timber, the Tonto National Forest contains a spectacular 2.9 million acres of cactus, chaparral, ponderosa pine, and mixed conifer country north and east of Phoenix right up to the edge of the Mogollon Rim. The Forest is the fifth largest in the United States and has six Ranger Districts operating in a complex, sensitive political atmosphere. The Forest receives national attention concerning such issues as recreation, range management, prescribed fire, road management, and a host of issues related to the wildland urban interface next to the Phoenix Metropolitan Area.

### **Mesa Ranger District**

The Mesa District covers 440,000 acres. It has a permanent workforce of approximately 30 employees and hires approximately 15 temporary employees each year. The Mesa Ranger District is located in the central southern portion of the forest, with the district office located in Mesa. The District’s proximity to the Phoenix metro area with a population of nearly 4 million gives rise to many urban/wildland interface concerns. Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office provides extensive support to the Law Enforcement program.

The focal point of the District is recreation with two large reservoirs (Canyon and Saguaro Lakes), the Lower Salt River, Dispersed Recreation areas, and portions of three wilderness areas (Superstition, Four Peaks and Mazatzal). Recreation activities include: Boating and other watercraft, swimming, tubing, camping, off-road riding, hiking, backpacking, hunting, fishing and horseback riding. The District operates Fee sites at both lakes collecting nearly \$1 million every year. There are 167 existing picnic units in 10 picnic sites, 25 developed trailheads, and 77 existing camping units in 1 developed campground.

Recreation occurs year-round. The typical wilderness, hiking and camping season extends from October to April. Watersports dominate April through September. In terms of annual visitor use within the National Forest System, the Tonto is generally at or near the top each year. Recreation activity on the District reflects this.

The District has an active fire program. The unique climate, diverse vegetation, rugged terrain and overall visitor use generally make each fire season a challenge. The District averages about 80 statistical fires per year, during a season that generally runs from April through September. Over the past 10 years the Forest has been plagued by several large, devastating, wildfires including the Willow, Gran, and Edge Complex which encompassed a portion of this district. One of the challenges for the future will be to re-establish natural fire regimes into the fire dependent ecosystems. The Fire Management Team is currently completing an amendment to the Forest Plan that will allow the management of natural fires for resource benefits.

Other programs include allotment management (many with threatened/endangered/sensitive species issues), and wildlife management.

### **Government Services and Facilities**

Government provided housing is not available. Day care facilities are not available.

### **The Community of Mesa**

Most district employees reside in Mesa or the surrounding communities such as Gilbert, Apache Junction, Tempe and Chandler.

Mesa is Arizona's third largest city with approximately 460,000 residents. It is located 12 miles southeast of Phoenix. Phoenix metro area has one of the highest growth rates in the nation.

Mesa has a local newspaper (East Valley Tribune), 52 public elementary schools, 12 junior high schools, five high schools, two alternative schools, several charter schools, and Mesa Community College. Arizona State University (ASU) has a satellite campus in Mesa. ASU's main campus is located in Tempe, within commuting distance. There are four hospitals in Mesa and almost 1,000 physicians, dentists, osteopaths and chiropractors. There are over 50 churches and houses of worship in Mesa representing a variety of denominations. The City of Mesa offers a broad range of community and cultural facilities, proudly supporting the arts. For more information on the forest and district offices, please visit <http://www.fs.usda.gov/tonto/>.

**Thank you for your interest in our Opportunity!**

# OUTREACH RESPONSE FORM

Natural Resource Specialist (GIS focused)

GS-0401-05/07/09

If you are interested in this position, please complete this form and return to:

- Theresa Nallick, Forest GIS Program Manager, email: [theresa.nallick@usda.gov](mailto:theresa.nallick@usda.gov)

## Candidate Profile

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently a Federal Employee? \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

If yes, current agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Current title/series/grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Duty Station Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Appointment you are currently under: \_\_\_\_\_

(e.g., Career, Career-Conditional, Permanent, Term, Temporary, Excepted-ANILCA, Excepted VRA, etc.):

Duty Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Years in Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

If No, Current Agency/Company/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Description of duties: \_\_\_\_\_

Educational Background: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you eligible to be hired under any of the following special authorities?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Persons with Severe Disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disabled Veterans with 30% Compensable Disability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Veterans Recruitment Act (VRA) or Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998	<input type="checkbox"/>	Peace Corp Alumni
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pathways Program (Intern NTE, Intern Indefinite or Seasonal 1039)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reinstatement Eligibility or Other (please describe)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination on all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## TYPE OF APPOINTMENTS

<https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/hiring-information/hiring-authorities/>

Are you eligible for appointment under any of the following special authorities?

**VRA – Veterans Recruitment Appointment Authority** (Disabled veterans, veterans who served in a declared war, or in a campaign for which a campaign badge has been authorized, or awarded a Armed Forces Service Medal, and separated from active duty in the past 3 years).

**Military Spouse Hiring Authority** (Military spouses eligible under Non-competitive Appointment of Certain Military Spouses do not have a hiring preference; however, this appointing authority does provide for non-competitive entry into the competitive service. There are three categories that determine eligibility: those who are relocating with their service-member spouse as a result of permanent change of station (PCS) orders, spouses of service members who incurred a 100% disability because of the service member's active duty service, and spouses of service members killed while on active duty).

**VEOA – Veterans Employment Opportunity Authority** (Allows eligible veterans to apply for merit promotion vacancies otherwise not open to external candidates without career status).

**Prior AmeriCorps/VISTA** (Persons are granted a one-year period to be non-competitively appointed to a normally competitive Federal position after leaving the Peace Corps or AmeriCorps VISTA with a certification of eligibility).

**30% Disabled Veterans Appointing Authority** (Disabled veterans who were retired from active military service with a 30% or more disability rating; disabled veterans rated by the Veterans Affairs as having a compensable service-connected disability of 30% or more).

**Prior Peace Corps** (Former Peace Corps volunteers who have satisfactorily completed 3 years of continuous service into career or career-conditional permanent positions).

**Schedule A Disabled Persons Hiring Authority** (Persons with physical or mental disabilities certified by the Veterans Administration or a State Rehabilitation Agency as eligible).

**Reinstatement Rights** (Agencies may reappoint people previously employed under a career or career-conditional appointment by reinstatement to a competitive service position).

**Pathways Student Hiring Authority** (Internship Program: current students in an accredited high school, college [including 4-year colleges/universities, community colleges, and junior colleges]; professional, technical, vocational, and trade school; advanced degree programs; or other qualifying educational institution pursuing a qualifying degree or certificate; Recent Grads Program: recent graduates who have completed, within the previous two years, a qualifying associates, bachelors, masters, professional, doctorate, vocational or technical degree or certificate from a qualifying educational institution).

**Public Lands Corp** (A non-competitive authority for hiring current and former Public Lands Corps members who have satisfactorily served a minimum of 640 hours on an appropriate conservation project that included at least 120 hours through the Public Lands Corps. Current or former PLC members are eligible for noncompetitive hiring up to a 120days after completion of the program).

**Land Management Workforce Flexibility Act** (The purpose of the Land Management Workforce Flexibility Act is to allow certain current and former land management agency employees who are serving (or who have served) under a time-limited appointment to compete for any permanent position in the competitive service at a Land Management Agency, or any other agency, under “internal” merit promotion procedures).