



OUTREACH NOTICE
USDA Forest Service
Ashley National Forest

Permanent, Full-Time
Customer Service Representative
GS-0303-5
Vernal, Utah



The Ashley National Forest is currently advertising the following permanent, full-time Opportunity:

Vernal Ranger District, Customer Service Representative GS-0303-5

This is an exciting opportunity and will provide the applicant with experience working in a public facing position on the Vernal District of the Ashley National Forest. The Ashley National Forest is located east of Salt Lake City in the northeast corner of the state of Utah and the southwest corner of Wyoming.

The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to alert the local community of the upcoming job opportunity in addition to gathering information to establish the appropriate recruitment methods, e.g. merit and DEMO announcements; use of special hiring authorities such as Veteran and persons with disabilities; and area of consideration for the advertisement. Response will also be used to determine if incentives will be offered such as recruitment, relocation, or retention.

If you chose to respond to this outreach, please do so by May 15th 2024, and you will be contacted when the job opportunity is posted in USAJOBS at <https://www.usajobs.gov/>

Position Information Contact:

Larissa Monsen, Executive Assistant, at larissa.monsen@usda.gov or 435-781-5161

Major Duties

The incumbent works out of the visitor contact station of the Ashley N.F. Supervisors Office, immediately adjacent to the Vernal District Ranger Office. The incumbent will provide information and assistance to Forest users and visitors both in person, in writing, over the phone, or via email. A variety of computer systems will be used to sell, track, and account for various Forest products, passes, or merchandise provided by the Forest's cooperating partner, Intermountain Natural History Association. There are many opportunities to learn new and exciting things working at the front desk including learning the Government Printing process by creating brochures and other media to share information with the public, learning how to procure items in accordance with federal purchasing guidelines, participating in public outreach at various public events, learn about various resource departments by assisting them with clerical and administrative tasks, have opportunities to go out in the field with other professionals on occasion to assist with projects. This job is a mostly sedentary job with occasional lifting and bending.

Duty Station: **Vernal District Office**
Ashley National Forest

355 North Vernal Avenue
Vernal, Utah 84078

About the Ashley National Forest:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/ashley/>

The Ashley National Forest encompasses about a million and a half acres in northeastern Utah and southwestern Wyoming. The Forest lies in three geographical areas: the east-west range of the Uinta Mountains, the Green River Basin, and the Tavaputs Plateau. Elevations range from 6,000 to 13,528 feet.

Steep canyons, high mountain peaks, glaciated basins, large open meadows, and desert badlands produce a rich diversity of vegetation and wildlife. The grasses and shrubs of the high mountain desert are replaced by pinyon and juniper as the elevation rises. In mid-elevation areas, aspen dominates and becomes mixed with conifer. Higher up, the vegetation changes to conifer forest composed of ponderosa pine, lodgepole pine, fir, and spruce. Wildlife is abundant. Larger species include black bear, mountain lion, moose, elk, mule deer, pronghorn, mountain goats, and bighorn sheep.

Neighboring lands include the Uinta and Ouray Indian Reservation to the south, the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest to the west and north, and a mixture of Bureau of Land Management, State of Utah, and private lands to the east and southeast. Compared with other National Forests, relatively few small tracts of private land lie within the Ashley's boundary.

The High Uintas Wilderness, established by Congress in 1984, comprises nearly one-half million acres in the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache and Ashley National Forests. Within the wilderness, elevations range from 8,000 feet to 13,582 feet at the top of Kings Peak, the highest mountain in Utah. The Uinta Mountain range runs east to west, from the Wasatch Mountains into Colorado. Pre-Cambrian rock formed from sediments laid down 600 million years ago makes up the core of the range. Glacial activity carved deep canyons and left a spectacular landscape of rolling, treeless peaks and stratified ridges interspersed with broad meadows and numerous lakes.

The Green River below Flaming Gorge Dam is a world-famous blue-ribbon trout stream. The Little Hole National Recreation Trail parallels the river 7.3 miles from the Dam to the Little Hole Recreation Complex.

The Ashley National Forest boasts two National Recreation Areas. The Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area and The Ashley Karst National Recreation Geologic Area. Flaming Gorge Reservoir lies in the northeast part of the Forest and extends almost 90 miles into Wyoming. It offers outstanding fishing and boating opportunities. Record-breaking German brown trout and large lake and rainbow trout have been taken from its waters. The Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area has three marinas and many campgrounds, some of which are open year-round.

The newly established Ashley Karst National Recreation Area is located entirely on the Vernal Ranger District. It protects unique geologic formations that are critical to the primary water supply of the Uintah Basin and provides a variety of mechanized and non-mechanized recreation opportunities.

About Vernal, Utah

Vernal is situated in northeast Utah south of Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area and west of Dinosaur National Monument and is the county seat of Uintah County. Vernal has a population of about 10,000 people. When combined with the residents of surrounding communities, the population of the

Ashley Valley is approximately 20,000 while Uintah Counties total population is about 32,000. Vernal is 180 miles east of Salt Lake City and 300 miles west of Denver; go to <http://www.vernalchamber.com/> or <http://www.city-data.com/city/Vernal-Utah.html>

Climate

Vernal sits at approximately 5,000 feet above sea level. Vernal enjoys four beautiful temperate seasons; the climate is semi-arid with low humidity. Annual precipitation averages 15-20", mostly in the form of winter snow and spring/fall rain. Winter temperatures usually hover in the 20s-30s during the day but will occasionally drop to sub-zero. Mid-summer temperatures can reach 100 degrees, but generally average in the low-mid 90s, dipping into the 50s at night.

Schools

Vernal has six elementary schools, one middle school, one junior high, one high school, and a private Christian school. The Uintah District Learning Center provides education opportunities for children with special needs. Child day-care centers and preschools are also available. Utah State University-Uintah Basin (with branch campuses in Vernal and Roosevelt) employs about 25 resident faculty and offers 2 associate degrees, 23 Bachelor's Degrees, 12 Masters Degrees, and 1 Doctorate degree. Uintah Basin Applied Technology College offers Certificates of Competency for technical entry-level work.

Health Care

The Ashley Valley Regional Medical Center is a 39-bed acute care facility with an emergency room and trauma care facility with 34 affiliated physicians. Specialties include family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, radiology, pathology, orthopedics, ENT, general surgery, urology, OB/GYN, podiatry, ophthalmology and physiatry. Physicians from Salt Lake City also provide specialized, part-time services in the area. Major hospitals are located in Salt Lake City and Provo. The community also has several dentists, two optometrists, five chiropractors, and a variety of mental health professionals.

Housing

The average apartment rental is around \$750.00 to \$900.00 a month. Rental homes are not readily available. Average purchase price for a basic three-bedroom home ranges from \$200,000 to \$300,000. Government housing is not available.

Economic Base

Oil and gas exploration and production, along with oil shale, tar sands, gilsonite, and phosphate, had been the major components of the local economy. However, the decline of those industries, tourism has become a growing focus of economic growth. Several government offices are in Vernal and include the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Farmers Home Administration, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and city, county, and state offices.

Recreation Opportunities

Vernal has parks, a bowling alley, movie theaters, and an 18-hole golf course. Tennis courts, baseball and softball fields are also available. In addition, the Uintah Community Center offers an array of recreational opportunities for all ages including indoor lap pool, leisure pool with slides and water toys, a climbing wall, two full-size gyms, indoor running track, cardio balcony, an aerobic dance area, a strength area, on-site childcare, three party rooms, classrooms, a public meeting area, and conference rooms.

Basketball, volleyball, and baseball leagues are available for adults. Locally sponsored children's activities include Little League football, baseball, basketball, soccer, wrestling and a swim team. Several dance

schools instructing ballet, jazz, clogging, and tap as well as gymnastic classes for children are also available. The Uintah Recreation District also sponsors several “fun runs” and a triathlon (the Dino-Tri) each year.

Several nearby rivers and lakes offer excellent fishing and boating opportunities, and white-water raft trips are available through local guides. Mountain biking is a popular activity and there is a growing network of biking trails on public lands. Cross-country skiing, snowmobiling and ice fishing are popular winter sports.

OUTREACH INTEREST FORM
Permanent Full-Time Interest Form
Vernal District Customer Service Representative
GS-0303-5
Ashley National Forest
Vernal, UT

Please return this form with your resume by Wednesday, May 15th to Larissa Monsen at larissa.monsen@usda.gov

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Work, Home or Mobile?

Employer: FS Unit _____ Other _____

Current 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 Recruitment Act
- _____ Veterans w/30% Compensable Disability
- _____ Veterans Employment Opportunities Act Of 1998
- _____ Former Peace Corps Volunteer
- _____ Pathways Program (Intern, Indefinite and Recent Graduates)
- _____ Other:

Other information you want us to know: