



**Salmon-Challis National Forest
Assistant Fire Engine Operator
26-FIRE-P3VA-AFEO-56DH
GW 5/6, 18/8 schedule
Duty Station
Challis, ID**

The Salmon-Challis National Forest is seeking candidates to fill a GW-0462-06 Assistant Fire Engine Operator position. Interested applicants should contact Lance Lamb SFEO at 208-303-8154, or Darin Toy 208-390-3845 or by email to lance.lamb@usda.gov or darin.toy@usda.gov

The Cert will open on USAjobs.gov on the 10th of March and close the 19th of March 2026
Cert Number: 26-FIRE-P3VA-AFEO-56DH

About the Position

This position is on a Forest Service Type 6 Engine to serve as a lead wildland firefighter. Drives and operates a wildland fire engine, positioning the engine for proper use and operation. Personally performs and directs others in starting pump engine, priming pump, adjusting engine speed and pump valves, laying hose, and using appropriate nozzles and nozzle adjustment in effective use of water and additives. Has specialized duties such as water handling specialist, fully qualified chain saw operator, or responsible for maintenance of specialized equipment used to respond to wildland urban interface/intermix situations. Ensures the engine is kept in a full state of readiness for emergency fire dispatch. Serves as initial attack Incident Commander.

This position is on Engine 621 based out of the Challis, ID, housing is available. The engine stays busy throughout the summer with Initial Attack, fuels work, supporting the national fire effort with off-forest assignments and plenty of district project work between supporting Fire & Fuels. Please read more about the area below.

The position meets the definition of an Interagency Fire Management Program (IFPM) position, as designated by WO Fire Management. The incumbent must meet the qualifications specified in the Qualifications Standards and Guide prior to October 1, 2009 (FFT1 with S290)

About the Forest



The Salmon-Challis National Forest covers over 4.3 million acres in east-central Idaho. The Forest is bordered by the Bitterroot Range of the north-central Rockies on the east, and to the west includes over 1.3 million acres of the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness. Rugged and remote, this country offers adventure, solitude and breathtaking scenery. The Forest also contains Mt. Borah, Idaho's tallest peak and the Wild and Scenic Salmon River and Middle Fork of the Salmon River. The area is a highly desired destination for hunting, fishing, white-water rafting and many other recreation pursuits. It features diverse rough topography and geology, often severe weather conditions and miles of streams with

anadromous fish spawning habitat creating a highly complex land management situation. The Forest Headquarters Office is located in Salmon, Idaho. There are currently six administrative units on the Forest: Salmon-Cobalt, Challis-Yankee Fork, Lost River, Middle Fork, North Fork and Leadore Ranger Districts.

Check us out on the web at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/scnf/home>

About the communities:

Challis, Idaho: Challis is located about 50 mins Northeast of Stanley, ID and an hour South of Salmon, ID. It is a small, friendly county seat in central Idaho and a true gateway to the Salmon-Challis National Forest and the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness, placing millions of acres of public land right out your back door. Outdoor-minded residents and visitors come for world-class hunting, fishing, and hiking—from trout and seasonal steelhead on the Salmon River to summit scrambles on nearby Borah Peak in the Lost River Range.



Recreation for Stanley and Challis Areas: The Salmon River and the Middle Fork of the Salmon River, federally protected as Wild and Scenic Rivers, are renowned for white-water rafting, kayaking, floating and jet boating. Outfitter and guide services are offered in both the Stanley and Challis areas serving as gateways to the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness, Cecil D Andrus-White Clouds Wilderness and the Sawtooth Wilderness, plus the Sawtooth National Recreation Area encompassing millions of acres of public lands. The primitive mountain areas provide spectacular and abundant hunting (white-tailed and mule deer, elk, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, bear, moose, and cougar). Many species of game birds and also waterfowl can be found. Fishing (trout and steelhead) is open virtually all year. Miles of groomed trails and routes are prepared for cross-country skiing and snowmobiling while down-hill skiing, ice fishing and other winter fun can be enjoyed nearby. Challis and Stanley are also with-in driving distance of the world-famous Sun Valley Ski Resort. Stanley and Challis offer hiking and wilderness walks, camping and picnicking, rock hounding, prospecting, bird watching, OHV riding, photography, hot springs, back-country air tours, guest ranches, mining ghost towns and museums, all adding to the immense opportunity for pleasure and adventure to be had by avid sportsmen and casual outdoor enthusiasts alike.

Climate: The Challis area enjoys a dry, warm climate during the summer and fall months with daily highs averaging between 75 to 95 degrees, and nightly lows from 45 to 60 degrees. The climate in winter is ideal for

snow sports, the lowest temperatures averaging from 14 to 25 degrees with occasional sub-zero readings. Annual precipitation averages around 7 inches.

In the Stanley area the summers are comfortable, dry, and mostly clear and the winters are freezing, snowy, and partly cloudy. Over the course of the year, the temperature typically varies from 5°F to 79°F and is rarely below -13°F or above 86°F. The warm season lasts for 3.0 months, from June to September, with an average daily high temperature around 68°F. The hottest day of the year is in July, with an average high of 79°F and low of 39°F. The cold season lasts for 3.3 months, from November to February, with an average daily high temperature below 35°F. The coldest day of the year is typically in January, with an average low of 5°F and high of 24°F

Shopping and Services: Challis has a variety of shops and services including: grocery stores, convenience stores, restaurants, pharmacy, florists, veterinarians, auto-parts, ranch supplies, sporting goods, bars, hardware and lumber stores, video rentals, gas stations, and other businesses that specialize in antiques, jewelry, clothing, furniture, artwork, appliances, and gifts. There is a full-service bank, a credit union, a Post Office, and a public library. Stanley, ID is a small community nestled in at the base of the Sawtooth Mountain Range in Central Idaho. It is a small community but has a lot of small shops and services available and is a recreation gold mine.

Medical: The Challis Area Health Center has x-ray and laboratory facilities, an emergency room, ambulance and Life-Flight helicopter capabilities. Additional medical services are provided by specialists who regularly visit the clinic. There is a physician assistant, a dentist, an optometrist, and two chiropractic doctors. The area has 24 hour 911 and EMT service. Several hospitals are located within 60 to 200 miles.

Transportation: There is a small airport in Challis with charter flights available. Three of the closest major airports are within 100-200 miles.

Churches: Challis has an active church community with several churches representing a variety of denominations.

Entertainment and Activities: The Challis Arts Council, a non-profit organization, sponsors professional high-quality artistic events for the community. The city park is an excellent facility with a skateboard park, picnic pavilion, playground equipment, amphitheater, horseshoe pits and ball field. The community supports a popular Farmer's Market during the summer. The Forest Service has an exercise room, and there is also a commercial gym business. The privately-owned Challis Hot Springs, approximately seven miles from Challis, offers year-round swimming in two pools with a natural flow from the hot springs.

Check out our Forest Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/salmonchallisnf>

Stanley-Sawtooth Chamber of Commerce: <https://stanleycc.org/>

Challis Area Chamber of Commerce: <https://challischamber.com/>

