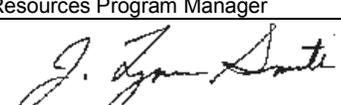


Position Description (Please read Instructions on the Back)										1. Agency Position No.	
2. Reason for Submission <input type="checkbox"/> Redescription <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Reestablishment <input type="checkbox"/> Other			3. Service <input type="checkbox"/> Hdqtrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Field		4. Employing Office Location		5. Duty Station		6. OPM Certification No.		
Explanation (Show any positions replaced)					7. Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nonexempt		8. Financial Statements Required <input type="checkbox"/> Executive Personnel Financial Disclosure <input type="checkbox"/> Employment and Financial Interest		9. Subject to IA Action <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
NPS Standard Position Description Fire Management Program					10. Position Status <input type="checkbox"/> Competitive <input type="checkbox"/> Excepted (Specify in remarks) <input type="checkbox"/> SES (Gen.) <input type="checkbox"/> SES (CR)		11. Position Is <input type="checkbox"/> Supervisory <input type="checkbox"/> Managial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neither		12. Sensitivity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. Non Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Noncritical Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Critical <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Special Sensitive		13. Competitive Level Code
					14. Agency Use PDL610 *424						
15. Classified -Graded By		Official Title of Position		Pay Plan	Occupational Code	Grade		Initials		Date	
a. Office of Personnel Management											
b. Department, Agency or Establishment											
c. Second Level Review		FORESTRY TECHNICIAN		GS	462	06		JLS		11/24/98	
d. First Level Review											
e. Recommended by Supervisor or Initiating Office											
16. Organizational Title of Position (if different from official title) FUELS TECHNICIAN						17. Name of Employee (if vacant, specify)					
18. Department, Agency, or Establishment Department of Interior						c. Third Subdivision					
a. First Subdivision National Park Service						d. Fourth Subdivision					
b. Second Subdivision Alaska Region						e. Fifth Subdivision					
19. Employee Review-This is an accurate description of the major duties and Responsibilities of my position.						Signature of Employee (optional)					
20. Supervisory Certification. I certify that this is an accurate statement of the major duties and responsibilities of this position and its organizational relationships, and that the position is necessary to carry out Government functions for which I am responsible. This certification is made with the knowledge that this information is to be used for statutory purposes relating to appointment and payment of public funds, and that false or misleading statements may constitute violations of such statutes or their implementing regulations.											
a. Typed Name and Title of Immediate Supervisor						b. Typed Name and Title of Higher-Level Supervisor or Manager (optional)					
Signature				Date		Signature				Date	
21. Classification/Job Grading Certification. I certify that this position has been classified/graded as required by Title 5, U.S. Code, in conformance with standards published by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management or, if no published standards apply directly, consistently with the most applicable published standards.						22. Position Classification Standards Used in Classifying/Grading Position Grade Level Guide for Aid and Technician Workin the Biological Sciences, GS-400, dated December 1991					
Typed Name and Title of Official Taking Action J. Lynn Smith Human Resources Program Manager						Information for Employees. The standards, and information on their application, are available in the personnel office. The classification of the position may be reviewed and corrected by the agency or the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. Information on classification/job grading appeals, and complaints on exemption from FLSA, is available from the personnel office or in the U.S. Office of Personnel Management.					
Signature 				Date 11/24/98							
23. Position Review		Initials	Date	Initials	Date	Initials	Date	Initials	Date	Initials	Date
a. Employee (optional)											
b. Supervisor											
c. Classifier											
24. Remarks Department of Interior , FF/LE Retirement Team Specialist <u>M. Pospahala</u> . This PD has been approved as follows under 5 USC 8336(C) and 8412(d): <u>X</u> Firefighter <u> </u> Law/Enforcement <u>X</u> Primary <u> </u> Secondary/Administrative <u> </u> Secondary/Supvy Approval Date <u> </u> December 17, 1998 <u> </u> . This position is for young and physically vigorous Individuals. Maximum entry age restrictions apply when filled under an appointment subject to the retirement system. <p style="text-align: center;">*Agency Use Code should be entered in FPPS as last three spaces of position allocation number</p>											
25. Description of Major Duties and Responsibilities (See attached)											

**STANDARD POSITION DESCRIPTION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
FIRE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

CLASSIFICATION TITLE: FORESTRY TECHNICIAN

SERIES AND GRADE: GS-0462-06

Introduction

This position is located in a National Park Service organization. The primary purpose and responsibilities of this rigorous position are to serve as a prescribed fire technician in the implementation and monitoring of wildland and prescribed fire projects.

Major Duties

Fire Control Duties

This is a rigorous position with incumbent performing the following duties, which are directly connected with the control and extinguishment of fires for over 50% of the time:

Performs all aspects of wildland and prescribed fire operations including preparation, ignition, monitoring, holding, mop-up and rehabilitation. Collects fire weather data, fuel and/or soil moisture samples, maps projects and maintains appropriate records, including fire reports.

Serves as a Prescribed Fire Monitor, collecting and evaluating weather, fuels, topography, and fire behavior data for prescribed and wildland fires. Prepares maps of fire perimeter to report fire progress over time. Observes and reports smoke transport and potential impacts of fire on resources and safety of personnel. Evaluates observed conditions and problems, makes preliminary determinations on the cause of problems noted, and provides results to higher-level specialists for analysis.

Serves as Ignition Specialist, Field Observer, Squad Boss, or as a holding or ignition crew member on wildland and prescribed fires.

Operates four-wheel drive pickup trucks and fire engines, portable pumps, chainsaws, and other common fire equipment.

Serves as a senior firefighter on wildfires. Utilizes a variety of specialized tools, equipment, and techniques while actively suppressing fires. Locates line, directs and participates in line construction, back fire and burnout, hose layout and pumping, tree felling, mobile and stationary engine attack, and holding, patrol, and mop up operations.

Additional Duties

When not performing fire control duties, and for less than 40% of the time:

Establish monitoring plots in a variety of vegetation/fuel types in accordance with established guidelines and directions. Follows monitoring procedures outlined in the NPS National Fire

Monitoring Handbook and/or adopted park protocols. Make site-specific decisions relating to plot location and vegetation composition. Recognize and report deviations from standard procedures and expected results.

Monitor plots and make field observations of resource conditions. Evaluate observed conditions and problems, and makes preliminary determinations on the cause of the problems noted. Provide results to higher-level specialists for analysis along with suggestions for protection, mitigation, etc.

Assist in the preparation of burn plans based on predicted fire behavior and potential problems. Draft fire maps and reports fire progress, smoke dispersal, and fire potential. Recommend management strategies based on fire analysis. Prepare Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA) as requested.

May research fire literature and provide applicable information for fire management programs.

Assist resource professionals in field survey efforts such as archeology, vegetation surveys, and resource inventories and data analysis.

Independently identifies grasses, herbs, shrubs, and trees. Prepares herbarium specimens and records microhabitat and plant association data.

Uses computer models to store, update, and analyze fire behavior and other monitoring data. Enters and assists others in entry of data into computer analysis programs.

May assist in park emergency operations.

May perform hazard fuel reduction projects, which entail thinning and cutting vegetation through use of mechanical means, e.g., chainsaw, etc.

As assigned, may temporarily lead one or a few other employees in the accomplishment of the above duties. In addition to performing the above work, the incumbent may be required to prepare equipment, monitor work progress, verify that assignments are completed, and resolve non-technical problems.

Other Significant Facts

This is a Testing Designated Position (TDP) under the Department of the Interior Drug-free Workplace Program.

This position is for physically vigorous individuals. Incumbents must meet physical fitness standards for arduous positions.

Factor 1. Knowledge Required by the Position

Level 1-4, 550 points

Knowledge of NPS Fire Management Policies, cultural resource management practices, NPS fire management plans, fire monitoring procedures, ignition techniques, and components of burn plans for prescribed and wildland fires, and fire effects.

Knowledge of strategies, tactics, and suppression methods used in containment and control of wildfires and wildland fires including safe use of common fire tools and equipment such as Pulaski, McLeod, chainsaws, driptorch, pumps, fire shelter, etc., to build fire line and control wildland and prescribed fires.

Practical knowledge of plant and fire ecology principles and techniques, and vegetation sampling procedures.

Knowledge of local flora and plant community types to quickly and correctly identify flowering plants to species and to distinguish lower plant orders.

Knowledge of fire behavior prediction systems at the S-390 level or higher, NFFL and NFDRS fuel models, fire weather monitoring procedures and accuracy requirements. Knowledge of collection and recording procedures for fire behavior, fire effects, and weather data.

Knowledge of equipment maintenance and minor repair in order to maintain equipment in working order and prevent downtime when equipment is critically needed.

Ability to implement wildland and prescribed fire burn plans.

Ability to meet requirements as an NPS Prescribed Fire Monitor (RXFM), Prescribed Fire Specialist (RXFS), and single resource boss or trainee.

Ability to apply fire orders and watch out situations to various fire situations.

Ability to operate four-wheel drive pickup trucks and fire engines.

Ability to use computers and telecommunications equipment for data entry, word processing, communicating and reporting.

Ability to use compass, topographic maps and aerial photographs to safely and efficiently locate and access fires and monitoring plots.

Knowledge of personnel safety techniques to prevent injury to self and others. Ability to provide basic first aid and CPR.

Factor 2. Supervisory Controls

Level 2-3, 275 points

The supervisor defines objectives, priorities, and deadlines for assignments, and provides assistance on the more complex assignments. Assignments are conducted independently and as a team effort. The incumbent is given latitude for planning and accomplishing work and is expected to exercise initiative and judgment. Completed work is reviewed for appropriateness and technical soundness. Methods are not typically reviewed in detail.

Factor 3. Guidelines

Level 3-2, 125 points

Guidelines are typically in the form of oral and written instructions and training prior to wildland fire, prescribed fire or suppression activities. Established guidelines and techniques (e.g., in-park, service-wide, or scientific literature) for fire and other resource monitoring are used to

conduct work. When existing written instructions do not apply, the problem is referred to the supervisor.

Specific guidelines to be used include the park's Natural Resources Management Plans, Fire Management Plans, NPS National Fire Monitoring Handbook, and National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) Fireline Handbook. It is necessary to consult a variety of subject matter references (i.e., scientific publications, manuals, and guidelines) for conducting resource management, research, and monitoring investigations according to accepted protocols and standards.

Since every possible situation cannot be anticipated and covered in training, the employee must use judgment in selecting the appropriate guidelines and applying methods, techniques, and procedures due to the changing conditions in relation to the prescribed or wildland fire. Guides such as safety regulations must be applied.

Factor 4. Complexity

Level 4-2, 75 points

Projects include completing a variety of tasks on prescribed and wildland fires, fire weather data collection, fire management, and fire effects monitoring. The work involves skillful application of a variety of fire monitoring and prescribed fire ignition and holding techniques, and equipment and tool use. The sequence of most tasks is readily apparent and requires few choices to be made; more complex tasks, such as ignition and holding tasks, may require consultation with supervisor as to decision-making and sequencing. Incumbent is expected to apply and modify guidelines and protocols based on past experience. Suggestions for improving practices, standard, and policies are expected.

Factor 5. Scope and Effect

Level 5-2, 75 points

The work involves the skillful application of a variety of prescribed fire control and monitoring techniques and use of equipment and tools. The work contributes to the effective implementation of the Park's Fire Management Program. Duties have a significant impact on the long-term fire restoration component of the Park's Fire Management Program, in that prescribed fire projects and data collected enables managers to make decisions about ecosystem management and to evaluate program success.

Factors 6 and 7 (combined). Personal and Purpose of Contacts Level 2/A, 45 points

Primary contacts are with co-workers, personnel from fire and resource management and other divisions, fire and resource management personnel from other parks, and personnel from other Federal and State land management agencies. The purposes of contacts are to exchange information, gather and clarify information, resolve problems and answer questions.

Factor 8. Physical Demands

Level 8-3, 50 points

Arduous: Duties involve 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.

The duties of this position requires the incumbent to meet the physical fitness test for arduous positions.

Factor 9. Work Environment

Level 9-3, 50 points

The work is primarily performed outdoors in forest and desert environments in steep terrain where surfaces may be extremely uneven, rocky, or covered by vegetation. Temperatures commonly exceed 100F and fall below freezing. Risks include 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 bivouac and eating situations under an unpredictable set of circumstances. Incumbent may be required to live in backcountry camps for extended periods of time. The hazardous nature of the job requires that protective clothing be worn (hard hats, gloves, boots, flame resistant clothing and other personal protective equipment). Work requires travel by light fixed-wing or rotor-wing aircraft.

Processing and analysis of data are done primarily in an office setting, involving extended hours of computer work; this is done less than 20% of the time.

CLASSIFICATION EVALUATION

Classification Allocation: Forestry Technician, GS-0462-06

Position Classification Standards Used: Forestry Technician, GS-462, TS-111, 12/911; Fire Protection and Prevention Series, GS-081, 09/91; Grade Level Guide for Aid and Technical Work in the Biological Sciences, GS-400, TS-111, 12/91;

Background

This position description is established as a standard position description for use by the National Park Service Fire Management Program and is appropriate for rigorous positions in Parks where the **PRIMARY PURPOSE** is to serve as a Prescribed Fire Technician in the implementation and monitoring of wildland and prescribed bum projects. These duties are directly connected with the control and extinguishment of fires. This position is for physically vigorous individuals and incumbents must meet the physical fitness standards for arduous positions.

Title and Series Determination

The Forestry Technician, GS-462 series (TS-111, 12/91) covers positions that primarily require a practical knowledge of the methods and techniques of forestry and other biologically based resource management fields. Forestry technicians provide practical technical support in the scientific management, protection, and development of forest resources. Forestry Technicians are most commonly found in first level units and are principally concerned with performing work supporting the implementation of projects and program goals. Since the majority of wildland and prescribed fire projects are carried out in forested areas, the GS-462 is the most appropriate

series for this position. Furthermore, GS-0081, Fire Protection and Prevention Series (TS-108, 9/91), states that positions that include fire control, suppression, and related duties incident to forestry management work should be classified to the Forestry Technician Series.

In accordance with the titling instructions of the Forestry Technician standard (GS-462), Forestry Technician is the authorized title for this position. Therefore, the proper title and series are Forestry Technician, GS-462.

Grade Level Determination

The duties will be evaluated by the Grade Level Guide for Aid and Technical Work in the Biological Sciences, GS-400, (TS-111, 12/91), which is in the FES format.

Evaluation Factors	Level Assigned	Points Assigned
1. Knowledge Required by the Position	1-4	550
Comments: Incumbent applies knowledge of the technical Required by methods and procedures of wildland fire control. Monitors and carries out a variety of technical duties (e.g., prescribed and wildland fire preparation, ignition, monitoring, holding, mop-up, and rehabilitation); collects weather, fuels, topography and fire behavior data, etc., common to the specialty area of wildland fire.		
2. Supervisory Controls	2-3	275
Comments: Supervisor provides training and outlines objectives. The incumbent is relied upon to independently carry out assignments. Supervisor provides advice for non-routine work. Completed work is periodically reviewed for quality, technical accuracy, and thoroughness.		
3. Guidelines	3-2	125
Comments: Incumbent must choose the most appropriate from several guidelines; uses judgment to handle aspects of work not completely covered by guidelines. Makes minor deviations.		
4. Complexity	4-2	75
Comments: Work involves performing a variety of related technical tasks of limited scope or difficulty, e.g., performs a variety of technical duties in implementing prescribed and wildland fire plans. The incumbent must choose the correct technique, guideline, or procedure that applies to the situation.		
5. Scope and Effect	5-2	75
Comments: Work involves the execution of specific procedures, and techniques which differ with each project's fuel type, weather conditions, and topography; execution of bum plans and data collected affects the accuracy, reliability, or acceptability of the Park's fire restoration component of the fire management program.		
6. Personal Contacts	2	--
Comments: Contacts are with co-workers, personnel from fire and resource management and other divisions, fire and resource management personnel of other parks, other Federal and State land management agencies in a moderately structured setting.		
7. Purpose of Contacts	A	45
Comments: Exchange, clarify, and gather information.		
8. Physical Demands	8-3	50
Comments: This is a rigorous field position. The work requires regular and recurring		

protracted period of considerable and strenuous physical exertion.		
9. Work Environment	9-3	50
Comments: Work is performed in steep terrain, uneven surfaces, in extreme weather conditions, with exposure to heat, smoke, snakes, and insects. The work requires wearing protective clothing.		
Total Points: 1245		
Final Grade Allocation: GS-06 (GS-6 range is 1105 - 1350)		

Conclusion

The total points allocated to this position equal 1245 which falls within the GS-6 range of 1105 - 1350. The appropriate classification of this position is Forestry Technician, GS-0462-06.

