

OUTREACH NOTICE

Eastern Sierra InterAgency Visitor Center Mt. Whitney Ranger District Lone Pine, California

(760) 876-6222

The Mt. Whitney Ranger District of the Inyo National Forest intends to hire 4 Visitor Information Technicians and/or 4 Forestry Technicians to staff the Eastern Sierra Interagency Visitor Center in Lone Pine, California during 2008 summer season. These are temporary positions for a six month season. The GS position ratings are 3, 4 or 5 depending on the qualification of the applicants. Students may qualify for a special hiring program.

JOB DATES

May through October

MAJOR DUTIES

The staff serves as frontline representatives of the agencies at a busy, interagency visitor center dispensing a variety of information products to the public. Employees use good customer service skills and phone etiquette to answer visitor questions and disseminate information. The Visitor Center also serves as the public face for the Mt Whitney Ranger District of the Inyo National Forest. Passes and permits are required for some public land activities and are available at the Visitor Center. These permits help to provide quality recreation opportunities and to regulate activities such as removal of firewood and other land based products. Employees assist the National Forest and National Park wilderness programs by issuing wilderness permits for the Mt. Whitney Zone and other trails. This involves providing wilderness regulations, Leave No Trace ethics and operating a computer database. Duties include learning and researching information covering a large and fascinating region including, but not limited to the Death Valley National Park, Inyo National Forest and Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Park. Staff performs daily activities in support of the visitor center operation including sales, equipment operation and grounds monitoring.

JOB REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must be enthusiastic and cooperative team members. Excited to serve as a representative of the agencies, enjoy assisting others by providing information and education. The Visitor Center is a fast paced and busy environment. The job requires extended time standing on concrete floor and some bending and lifting. As a member of the Visitor Center staff, employees will be required to work weekends and holidays.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For further information on this position and/or to express your interest for this position please contact Jody Rowell at jrowell@fs.fed.us or call 760-876-6237.

HOW TO APPLY

Job announcement can be located at www.usajobs.com. We will be hiring applicants with a variety of background experience and education. Contact the Visitor Center for announcement numbers.

Applications can be completed at <https://www.avuedigitalservices.com>. We will begin reviewing applications in March and making selections soon after. Note: these positions are listed nationwide, when entering your Applicant Information, be sure to select **Lone Pine, CA**.

ABOUT THE JOB LOCATION

The Visitor Center is located one and half miles south of Lone Pine on US Highway 395. The Eastern Sierra InterAgency Visitor Center is a unique cooperative effort operated by eight – federal, state and local agencies, to supply information and educational services to people from around the world. The Eastern Sierra Nevada and Northern Mojave Desert offers a wealth of world-class visitor destinations ready and waiting for exploration. At this location, one can view the highest peak in the “lower 48 states” - Mt Whitney - or plan a trip to the largest national park in the “lower 48 states” - Death Valley - with the lowest elevation in the western hemisphere. A non-profit organization, the Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association (ESIA), operates the Discovery Bookstore with a comprehensive selection of book titles and provides an extensive selection of maps for the region.

The Inyo National Forest is a large, complex forest, encompassing about two million acres in California and Nevada. It contains several natural features of national and international interest. There are seven wilderness areas and six research natural areas, as well as the Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area and the Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest (the oldest trees in the world). Diverse geologic features, combined with the elevational extremes and the resulting wide range of climatic conditions, have created tremendous floristic diversity on the Forest, with vegetation communities ranging from desert scrub, sagebrush scrub, and Pinyon woodland, to Jeffrey pine, Lodgepole pine and alpine habitats.

HOUSING

Barracks space may be available near the duty station at the Mt Whitney Ranger Station compound. The rent is approximately \$120/month. There are both individual and shared rooms in the barrack. The adjacent Lone Pine High School offers adult swimming in its pool most days of the week during the summer vacation period.

ABOUT LONE PINE

Lone Pine is located in the Owens Valley between the Sierra Nevada and Inyo Mountains. The town is 225 miles north of Los Angeles, 260 miles south of Reno, and 240 miles west of Las Vegas. The elevation is approximately 3,700 feet. Temperatures range from 20 to 105 degrees with approximately 2-6 inches of snow in the winter which usually melts in a few days. During the summer months there is an occasional afternoon thundershower and daytime temperatures can be hot.

Lone Pine is a small friendly community with a grocery store, restaurants, and motels. The population of is approximately 1,600. Bishop to the north and Ridgecrest to the south (approximately a 1 hour drive each direction) have several major retailers including JC Penney,

K-Mart, Vons, Wal-Mart and movie theaters. There is a 24 hour emergency facility provided by Southern Inyo Hospital. Lone Pine also has a medical/dental clinic and several doctor's offices. Specialist are available in Ridgecrest and Bishop.

A wide variety of recreational opportunities are provided locally including: hiking, backpacking, fishing, hunting, hang gliding, cycling, mountain biking, rock climbing, and bird watching. There is a public 9-hole golf course which is playable year round. Mammoth Mountain is located 90 miles north for world-class downhill skiing in the winter and great year-around resort facilities. Death Valley National Park (Elevation -282) is 105 miles east and Mt. Whitney Peak (Elev 14,496) is 14 miles to the west of Lone Pine.