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published by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management or, if no published standards apply directly, consistently with the most applicable published standards.					Forestry Technician, GS-462, dated December 1991; and the General Schedule Supervisory Guide, dated April 1998									
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									
Signature Date					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 the									
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Position Review	Initials	Date	Initials	Date	Initials	T	Date		Initial	<u>, T</u>	Date	Initia	s	Date
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Remark This PD has been approved as follows under 5USC 8336(c) and FirefighterLaw Enforcement						and 8412(d): This position is for young and physically vigorous individuals. Maximum entry age restric-								
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*Agency Use Code should be entered in FPPS as last three spaces of position allocation number.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Certification of Position Approval for Retirement Under 5 USC 8336(c) and 8412(d)



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[N] Approved under th	ne Civil Service Retirement System, 5 USC 8336(c)	
[1] Approved under th	ne Federal Employees Retirement System, 5 USC 8412(d)	
Category of Coverage:_	Primary (Firefighter)	
Bureau:	National Park Service	•
Classification Title:	SUPERVISORY FORESTRY TECHNICIAN	
Organization Title:	National Prescribed Fire Module Leader	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Series and Grade:	GS-0462-07	
Fire Management Prop	gram Standard Position Description number:420	
	FOR COVERAGE REVIEW: ecommended under both CSRS and FERS.	
Idland fires in the areas of the which includes preparition of the Prescribed Fire Falls, Strike Team Leade equipment. The rigorous of	plans throughout the National Park system. The primary mission and first of holding, monitoring, mapping, and fire behavior predictions. 75% of the paration, ignition, monitoring, holding, mop-up, and rehabilitation. Serves Burn Boss, Ignition Specialist, Prescribed Fire Behavior Specialist, Crew I are. Operates four-wheel drive pickup trucks and fire engines, portable punduties of this position require the incumbent to meet physical fitness require tumbent performing duties, which are directly connected with the constant.	he time is spent implementing burn in various overhead functions, Boss, Incident Commander (Type 3 and aps, chain saws, and other common fire rements for arduous positions. This is a
MARII FE POSPAHAIA	FF/LEO Reirement Specialist, NPS Representative	13/4/98 Date
I shoulted	Le	12.04-98
RICHARD T. GALE, Dep	outy Chief Ranger, NPS	Date
Marcia S.x	Seifrer	12/9/98
MARCIA SCIFRES, DOI 1	Fixe & Law Enforcement Retirement Team Leader	Date
Tester X &	In de como à	12/11/98
ESTER K. ROSENKRAN	NCE, Director, Office of Fire and Aviation (BLM)	Date
	ition described above is approved for coverage under Firefighter or to classification date of 11-24-98. Approval is by DOI Secretary's	

STANDARD POSITION DESCRIPTION NATIONAL PARK SERVICE FIRE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

CLASSIFICATION TITLE: SUPERVISORY FORESTRY TECHNICIAN

SERIES AND GRADE: GS-462-07

NOTE: This position description is appropriate for positions supervising a 5 to 7 person National Prescribed Fire Module (PFM). Although this is a national resource, the module is assigned to a home park/unit. In addition to this position, the crew is comprised of a Lead Forestry Technician, and three to five crewmembers, the majority of which are OS-5's.

Introduction

This position is located in a park unit, which has been assigned a National Prescribed Fire Module (PFM). The incumbent serves as supervisor of a PFM crew of 4 or more forestry technicians and additional technicians and detailers from the host/requesting unit. As a national resource, the modules are available to all NPS units. The modules are also available to other agencies on a limited basis. The primary mission of the PFM is to assist with wildland fires in the areas of holding, monitoring, mapping, and fire behavior predictions. Other duties include ignition, holding, and monitoring prescribed fires; preparing all aspects of prescribed fires (control line construction, burn plans, fire effects plot work, archeology surveys); and performing hazard fuel reduction projects.

Major Duties

Rigorous Field Duties (75%)

Receives work assignments from PFM Program Coordinator in Boise, fire managers and project leaders in units requesting PFM services. Analyzes hazards involved and determines safety procedures and personal protective equipment required.

Prepares and trains subordinates in preparation of bum plans for wildland and prescribed fires which ent0s field survey work in mapping and assessing fuels and vegetation. Maps vegetation, fire perimeter, and other features from field surveys, topographic maps, aerial photography, and GIS. Uses state-of-the-art modeling programs such as BEHAVE, RXWINDOW, FARSITE, PCSEASON/RERAP, EPM, FOFEM, and SASEM, to predict fire spread, fire intensity, and smoke emissions and transport.

Supervises and personally performs all aspects of wildland and prescribed burn operation, insuring that preparation, ignition, holding, mop-up, rehabilitation, and evaluation are completed to the standards specified in the Burn Plan. Uses firefighting techniques, equipment and tools such as air operations, pumps, engines, axe, shovel, Pulaski, McLeod, hand and chainsaws, etc., in initial attack, fire line construction, and mop-up activities. Determines best method of control of fires, and makes judgments regarding location and width of fireline in relation to fuel types, topography, weather, etc.

Provides instructions to module members, assists in work accomplishment, and provides or identifies training needed. Monitors work in progress, ensures needed equipment and materials

are available. Resolves problems, and reports to the module's home park Fire Management Officer (FMO) about the work, personnel, and problems encountered.

Evaluates problems on fires and recommends management strategies. Prepares accurate and timely fire reports including Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA), and Fire Observation Record as requested.

Personally performs tasks to control and extinguish wild fires as needed.

Serves in various overhead functions, including Prescribed Fire Burn Boss, Ignition Specialist, Prescribed Fire Behavior Specialist, Crew Boss, Incident Commander (Type 3 and 4), and Strike Team Leader.

Serves and assists as lead and/or unit instructor for prescribed fire, fire suppression, and aviation courses for NPS and other agency personnel.

Assists in other park emergency functions as trained and qualified.

Assists units in planning and conducting programs to establish vegetation and fuels plots to assess fire effects within various ecosystems.

May perform hazard fuel reduction projects, which entail thinning and cutting vegetation through use of mechanical means, such as chainsaws, etc.

Supervisory Duties (25%)

Provides technical and administrative supervision to a National Prescribed Fire Support Module (PFM) which consists of one GS-6, three to five crew members, the majority of which are GS-5s, and additional technicians and detailers.

Plans work to be accomplished by the module, prepares schedule adjusting to changes in priorities, and approves leave. Coordinates project/work schedule with the PFM Program Coordinator at the National Fire Management Program Center (in Boise) and host park FMO. Reports changes in module status for daily situation update as required. Assigns work based on priorities and the capabilities and grade levels of employees and reviews completed work.

Develops performance standards and evaluates work performance of subordinates. Provides instructions and advice to employees on both work and administrative matters and resolves complaints from employees, referring group grievances and more serious unresolved complaints to a higher level supervisor.

Interviews candidates, makes selection of seasonal employees, and recommends appointment, promotion, or reassignment for permanent positions. Identifies and recommends fire - qualifications and training needs of employees and manages computerized fire qualification and experience records for module personnel in conjunction with the home park FMO.

Organizes and maintains equipment, vehicles, and supplies assigned to the module. Maintains property and asset accountability, designated property custodial officer for the module. Aids host park Fire Program Assistant in preparation and completion of travel documents for module

travel. Completes and submits subordinates time and attendance records to home park for processing.

Ensures equal opportunity for employees supervised in the selections for training, promotions, awards and recognition, and other career development opportunities. Ensures fair, lawful, and unbiased employment practices in recruitment and selection. Supports programs for training and advancement of employees.

Provides for crew safety and welfare and implements a training program in compliance with applicable requirements. Ensures work conditions conform to agency safety programs. Identifies and corrects job safety and health hazards, instructs employees on safety requirements of assignments, reviews and reports loss incidents in accordance with NPS and OWCP regulations. Identifies corrective measures for violations of the Occupational Safety and Health Act standards in the workplace.

Supervises a workforce that performs projects which have changing priorities due to the nature of the work (e.g., scheduled prescribed fire projects are preempted by the occurrence of a wildland fire or wildfire; weather conditions do not permit scheduled prescribed fire projects; etc.). Employees may be assigned to prescribed fire projects in other locations and even when on the same project, the crew is physically dispersed over several or hundreds of acres. Supervision is accomplished by telephone contacts, radio, computer, or meeting at a common location.

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.

This position requires incumbent to operate four-wheel drive pickup trucks and fire engines. This position requires frequent travel.

Factor 1. Knowledge Required by the Position

Practical knowledge of the practices, methods, and techniques of fire management. This includes fire behavior, fire organizations, strategies, tactics, equipment, and suppression methods used in containment and control of wildland fires and wildfires in multiple vegetation/fuels including grass, brush, and timber types. These knowledge's are required to lay out, schedule, organize, and execute wildland and prescribed bum plans.

Knowledge of burn plan components for prescribed and wildland fires, including knowledge of fire effects in various vegetation types.

Knowledge of wildland fire science including BEHAVE, RXWINDOW, and other modeling programs for fire behavior and emissions.

Knowledge of S-390 (Fire Behavior Calculations) or higher to predict the spread and intensity of forest and brush fires using fire behavior nomograms, the HP-71 B calculator or PC/BEHAVE.

Must understand the importance of accuracy of data input and interpretation of output forecasts and how that affects operations and personnel safety.

Knowledge of NPS Fire Management Policies, fire management plans, prescribed fire operations, fire monitoring procedures, and smoke management and ignition techniques.

Ability to meet requirements for certification as a NPS Prescribed Fire Bum Boss 2.

Knowledge of NPS natural and cultural resource management practices to be able to implement programs and initiate plans.

Ability to use computers to write reports, receive and send messages, manage databases and fire qualifications records. Must have knowledge of DOI Wildland Fire computer system (SACS).

Knowledge of fire terminology and use of radios to communicate with crew.

Ability to work within the full range of fuel types found throughout the National Park system to accomplish projects. This national PFM travels from park to park to implement bum plans in a variety of fuel types, e.g., grass, brush, timber, slash, etc.

Knowledge of adult education methods to conduct fire and aviation training programs and demonstrate use and maintenance of cutting and scraping tools, chainsaws, drip torches, pumps, fire shelters, and applications of Fire Orders and Watch Out situations.

Knowledge of Department of Interior and NPS aviation policy and standard helicopter operations to direct helicopters to remote field locations.

Skill in oral and written communication to relay instructions and information and to prepare readable reports.

Knowledge of safe use of common fire tools and equipment such as Pulaski, shovel, McLeod, chainsaws, pumps, etc., to build fire line and control wildland and prescribed fires.

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

Knowledge of supervisory techniques to direct and evaluate others in accomplishment of field projects, including knowledge of equal opportunity requirements and practices.

Knowledge of accepted safety practices in controlling fires and various other incidents to prevent injury, property damage or loss of life. Ability to provide basic first aid and use CPR to assist injured members in the field.

Factor 2. Supervisory Controls

Receives wildland and prescribed fire assignments from the PFM Program Coordinator in Boise. In the absence of national priorities, is assigned work by the home park supervisor. Project managers at the requesting unit provide objectives and guidance for the project at their park. The incumbent often independently plans and determines how to accomplish the assignment, selects procedures or techniques, and carries out the work to completion. Interagency or publicly sensitive questions are resolved in consultation with project manager

and supervisor. Discrepancies and safety concerns are brought to the attention of the supervisor as soon as possible.

The incumbent must use judgment, together with available references and experience, to select specific techniques to achieve assigned objectives. Generally seeks direction or decision from the project manager, supervisor, or the PFM Coordinator only when significant technical or procedural problems are encountered. Completed work is reviewed for technical soundness, overall adequacy, consistency with related park programs, and accomplishment of objectives.

Factor 3. Guidelines

Specific guidelines to be used include the home and requesting parks' Natural Resources Management Plans, Fire Management Plans, PFM Operations Guide, National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) Fireline Handbook and Prescribed Fire Qualifications and Training Systems, and an adapted version of the NPS Western Region's Wildland Fire Monitoring Handbook.

Scientific reference materials are used in developing programs, practices, and procedures. The incumbent exercises judgment in solving problems and identifying applicable guidelines. Existing methods and guidelines may be only partially applicable or require modification by the incumbent. The incumbent also makes recommendations to modify guidelines, procedures, and methodologies to improve the efficiency of the PFM.

Factor 4. Complexity

The position has key responsibility to implement wildland fire and prescribed burn programs for various national park units. This involves considering and evaluating factors such as fuel loading, ecosystem dynamics, fire history, fire situation and fire danger, resource availability, long-term weather forecasts, smoke management issues, public safety, resources threatened, safety hazards, cost and monitoring problems. Makes recommendations for actions which may have a significant effect on public and park visitors. Measurements and analysis of fire effects have long-term resource management implications. Incumbent is expected to apply and modify guidelines and protocols from other park areas for use in park where operations are being conducted. Since operations are carried out in various parks, which could be any park, nationwide, the situations and conditions are varied and involve the full range of diverse fuel types, weather conditions, and topography.

Complexity of prescribed fire programs is high. The goal of restoring fire to the ecosystems involves risk. Maintaining control of individual projects requires a high degree of reliance on accurate weather forecasts and ability to monitor changing weather conditions.

Factor 5. Scope and Effect

The purpose of the position is to lead a crew to implement wildland and prescribed bum plans; to assist in the development of these plans; and to collect information for scientifically based management of prescribed fire operations in the National Park Service. The work provides an essential basis for conclusions and recommendations related to the use of prescribed fire nationally.

Information developed by the incumbent may determine the need and priority of prescribed fires and assignment of personnel. Information provided by fire monitors supervised by the incumbent determine whether lightning caused wildland fires are allowed to burn, resulting in the perpetuation of park ecosystems and associated processes. The position has significant influence on both the planning and operations of prescribed fire management, as well as in the identification of topics for further research.

Factor 6. Personal Contacts

Contacts are with subordinates, fire and resource management personnel from various parks, National and Regional fire management personnel, National Weather Service personnel, fire personnel from other federal, state, and local agencies, media, general public, and with private organizations or individuals with an interest in the National Park Service prescribed fire operations.

Factor 7. Purpose of Contacts

Contacts with subordinates is to provide supervision, training, advice, and guidance. Contacts with PFM Program Coordinator and host unit FMO is to plan and coordinate work efforts, and resolve problems concerning the work or the particular needs of the PFM. Contacts with others is to share expertise, exchange information, standardize operations among parks, plan and coordinate operations, direct and adjust work in progress, conduct training, maintain good public and employee relations, maintain records, and clarify policy and procedures.

Factor 8. Physical Demands

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 require the incumbent to meet physical fitness tests for arduous positions.

Factor 9. Work Environment

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 100 degrees F and fall below freezing. Risks include smoke inhalation, fire entrapment, snake or insect bites and stings, exposure to excessive machinery noise, and failing 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 and reports is done primarily in an office setting, involving extended hours of computer work; this is done less than 25% of the time.

CLASSIFICATION EVALUATION

Classification Allocation: Supervisory Forestry Technician, GS-462-07

Position Classification Standards Used: Forestry Technician, GS-462, TS-111, 12/91; General Schedule Supervisory Guide, 4/98

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 positions, which serve as the supervisor of a National Prescribed Fire Module (PFM). This module is a national resource and implements wildland fire management plans throughout the National Park system, however the position is assigned to a home park/unit.

Title and Series Determination

The Forestry Technician, GS-462 series (TS-11, 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. Forestry Technician is the authorized title for positions at grades GS-4 and above. The prefix "Supervisory" is added since the position involves supervisory duties and responsibilities that meet the definition found in the General Schedule Supervisory Guide. Therefore, the proper title and series are Supervisory Forestry Technician, GS-462.

Grade Level Determination

Since this position has supervisory responsibilities and meets the definition of supervisor under the General Schedule Supervisory Guide, that guide will be used to determine the grade for this position.

Factors	Levels	Points	Remarks
1. SCOPE & EFFECT	1-1	175	In order to credit a level, the criteria dealing with both scope and effect must be met. The position meets level I -I for scope: work directed is procedural, routine, and typically provides services or products to specific persons or small, local organizations. The position meets level 1-1 for effect: work directed facilitates the work of others in the immediate organizational unit, responds to specific requests or needs of

			individuals or affects only localized functions. Level 1-2, SCOPE: technical work- that provides services which have limited Geographic coverage and support most of the activities comprising a typical national park; EFFECT: the services provided directly and significantly impact the park functions and activities and significantly affect the park operations and objectives. This position does not supervise work described at Level 1-2.
2. ORGANIZA- TIONAL SETTING	2-1	100	Position reports to Park FMO or Division Chief, who reports to Superintendent, who reports to a SES.
3. SUPERVISORY & MANAGERIAL AUTHORITY EXERCISED	3-2	450	Duties described meets the supervisory authority in level 3-2c.
4.A PERSONAL CONTACTS	4A-2	50	Subordinates, requesting park FMO, personnel from other federal, state, and local agencies.
4.B PURPOSE OF CONTACTS	4B-2	75	Plan and coordinate work efforts, resolve problems concerning the work; share expertise, exchange information, standardize operations; conduct training.
5. DIFFICULTY OF WORK DIRECTED	5-3	340	Supervises a PFM consisting of I GS-6 and 3-5 crewmembers, the majority of which are GS-5s. GS-6+1 GS-5=2-4 GS-4= 1-2 Base level = GS-5
6. OTHER CONDITIONS	6-1	310	Supervises technical work comparable to GS-6 or lower. Special Situations: #1 - Variety of Work - only I kind of work is supervised-not credited. #2 - Shift Operations - none-not credited. #3 - Constantly Changing Deadlines: The module is a national resource and their first priority is wildland fire or wildfire monitoring (such as lightning caused fires). However, prescribed fires (management ignited) are scheduled and once assigned, the module will remain dedicated to that project and unavailable for assignment to a wildland fire or wildfire at another park until after the ignition phase is completed. Therefore, their situation does NOT meet this definition of constant, abrupt, and unexpected changes in work assignments. #4. Physical Dispersion: The module is physically dispersed over several or hundreds of acres and therefore supervision is generally accomplished by radio when in the field. Although the module

TO		1500	members are dispersed at various times during the day, they also regroup throughout the day. Therefore, the fact that the members each have radios to keep in contact, they regroup throughout the day, and essentially are not physically removed from the supervisor where it makes day-to-day supervision difficult to administer. Therefore, this special situation is NOT meet. #5-Special Staffing Situations - positions supervised are almost always filled at the FPL and not appropriate for special staffing situations described-not credited. #6-Impact of Specialized Programs-not responsible for workload above GS-5-not credited. #7-Changing Technology-procedures do not change constantly because of changing technology-no credit. #8. Special Hazard and Safety Conditions: The wildland fire and wildfire monitoring and control duties of the module are rigorous and dangerous. The supervisor needs to make provisions for significant unsafe and hazardous conditions. This condition is met. Since special situations were not met, no addition level is credited
TO TO POI	NTS	1500	

FINAL GRADE CONVERSION = GS-7 (RANGE 1355-1066)

Conclusion:

Based on the foregoing analysis, this position is classified as Supervisory Forestry Technician, GS-462-07.