Mark Twain National Forest (USDA – Forest Service) may soon fill one (1) permanent Forester (Timber Sale Preparation), GS-0462-08/09 position. The position will be located in Ava, MO on the Ava/Cassville/Willow Springs Ranger District.

**Major Duties:**

Evaluates and analyzes the project sale folder information and conducts a preliminary field reconnaissance. Assembles and reviews the timber sales contract package. Determines, plans and arranges for the resources needed to complete the layout of sales. Identifies and verifies the land status and environmental constraints affecting layout of the proposed project on the ground. Reviews, compiles and analyzes field data. Completes environmental assessment reports and environmental impact statements. Prepares and ensures quality of documentation such as detailed maps, timber sale appraisals, advertisements, prospectus, and sample contracts for the sale. Arranges for interviews of prospective purchasers and explains contract provisions, road development, and cutting practices. Monitors and oversees cruising and marking of timber and prepares general logging plans and verifies logging system settings. Utilizing appropriate document, determines sale boundaries, proper location of logging roads, acceptable marking and cutting methods, stumpage prices, and the requirements for brush disposal, erosion control, and stand improvement. Prepares a summary of all records acceptable for final appraisal, sale contract preparation, and subsequent timber management activities.

**Full performance of this position includes completion of certification as a Region 9 Cruiser within one year.**

Duties also include providing zone-wide support to the operations team, as well as participation in forest-wide priority projects and associated presale coordination with off-district crews that may be assigned to work on the unit to accomplish forest goals in sale preparation. The HRCC / ACW Zone timber sale program produces an average timber sale volume total of approximately 15.0 – 18.0 MMBF (25,000 – 30,000 CCF) per year. Also, performs other duties as assigned.
**Physical Requirements:**

A physical capacity for working outdoors, in isolated areas is required. The work requires regular and recurring physical exertion related to conservation work requiring walking on rough uneven terrain, climbing steep banks, and jumping ditches and furrows. The duration of the activity contributes to the arduous nature of the job.

The work is performed in a forest environment where the terrain may be steep, uneven, rocky, and covered with thick and tangled vegetation. Temperatures may range from very hot and dry to cool and extremely wet. Rain, snow, wind, or dust may be encountered. Work requires the use of safety equipment such as boots, gloves, goggles, and hardhats.

**Vacancy Announcement:**

This notification is being circulated to inform prospective applicants of this upcoming opportunity and to determine the interest in this position. Vacancy announcement for this position has not yet been posted on USA Jobs. Applicants are encouraged to check USA Jobs website for information.

FOREST SERVICE EMPLOYEES ON THE WORKFORCE REDUCTION AND PLACEMENT LIST WILL RECEIVE PRIORITY CONSIDERATION; AND CTAP/ICTAP CANDIDATES WILL RECEIVE THE APPROPRIATE CONSIDERATION.

Interested candidates are encouraged to obtain/create a USA Jobs profile and prepare their resume in that format. The vacancy will be advertised at [http://the USAJOB site at http://www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov).

**Office of Personnel Management Qualifications:** Complete qualification requirements for this position can be found in the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Operating Manual for Qualification Standards for General Schedule Positions, which is available from any Federal Government Personnel Office and OPM on their web site (www.opm.gov/qualifications/index.htm).

**Time-in-Grade Requirement:** If you are a current or former federal employee and applying for a promotion opportunity, you must have 52 weeks of Federal service at the next lower grade in the normal line of progression for the position being filled. This requirement must be met within 30 days of the closing of this announcement.

**ABOUT THE FOREST:**

Mark Twain National Forest is made up of six ranger districts, mainly located in the southern third of the state. The Forest Supervisor’s Office is located in Rolla, Missouri. The Forest contains approximately 1.5 million acres, comprised mainly of upland hardwoods and some associated shortleaf pine. A full range of vegetation and recreation management activities on the forest include timber harvest and regeneration activities, TSI, prescribed fire, developed and dispersed recreation, and mining.

**DISTRICT INFORMATION:**

The ACW Ranger District covers approximately 320,000 acres of federal ownership. It is located in seven southwestern Missouri counties: Barry, Christian, Douglas, Howell, Ozark, Stone, and Taney.

A/C/W RD hosts 25 permanent fulltime positions. The District program of work includes management of the largest acreage of federally-owned glades in the State of Missouri; management of three State Natural Areas; timber harvesting for utilization and other resource objectives; three recreation fee demo
campgrounds (one of which connects to 85 miles of ATV and motorcycle trails), two day use areas, three National Forest scenic byways, one national recreation trail and many dispersed recreation opportunities. The program of work also includes the management of three Wilderness areas: Hercules Glades – 12,315 acres (Ava unit); Piney Creek – 8,142 acres (Cassville unit); and Devil’s Backbone – 6,595 acres (Willow Springs unit); special uses management is increasing with the emphasis in road access, recreation events, utilities and commercial outfitter and guide uses.

There are numerous non-recreational caves (currently under a Forest Closure Order) on the District and Forest, managed for various threatened, endangered and sensitive species. An active heritage program exists on the A/C/W RD. It is rich in cultural resources including Native American, Civil War and Civilian Conservation Corps history.

Ecosystems on the District include cedar glade, oak, oak-pine, and pine forests, oak savanna, and open woodlands. The terrain ranges from the rough breaks and dissected hill country to the flat plains. Walking conditions can range from open park-like conditions to steep slopes with dense mid and understories.

**ABOUT THE COMMUNITY:**

Ava, Missouri has a population of approximately 3,000 and is located in south central Missouri in the heart of the Missouri Ozarks in Douglas County (population est. 15,000). It is 60 miles southeast of Springfield, Missouri, 13 miles south of U.S. Route 60 and 60 minutes east of Branson, Missouri. Branson is just a stone’s throw from our units of Ava and Cassville. Ava is the Douglas County seat. It is a full service community.

**Recreation:** Outdoor recreation opportunities abound and include fishing, hunting, hiking, nature watching, camping, mountain biking, and boating. Ava is 45 to 90 minutes from Table Rock Lake, Lake Taneycomo, and Bull Shoals lakes for boating and fishing. A municipal pool was recently built for the town of Ava and a private pool exists at the Ava Country Club. With a Parks and Recreation director Ava offers: playgrounds, Little League, , girls softball, Toss and Tee Ball, soccer, football, baseball; a 9-hole country club golf course (grass greens), tennis courts, indoor archery, a community skate park, and a new community fitness center. Ava is also the home of the Missouri Fox Trotting Horse Breed Association, which is the only place in the world where a fox trotter can be registered.

**Industry:** is primarily rural-agricultural with the emphasis of dairy farms, cattle ranching, sawmills and small businesses. Copeland Manufacturing is Ava’s only large industrial plant.

**Real estate:** Homes in the Ava community and surrounding areas range from $45,000 to $150,000 plus; some include acreage. The majority are two to three bedroom homes. Rental houses are difficult to obtain, rental rates are $300 to $450 per month plus utilities. There are four trailer parks in the area. Buildable land at reasonable prices is available.

**Government Quarters:** None.

**Education:** Education opportunities include public primary and secondary schools. In addition, Drury University and Southwestern Missouri State University have satellite extensions in Ava. The Ava High School has AAA classification and hosts a vocational education program. Douglas County Public Library is also located in Ava.

**Medical:** There are health care facilities in Ava however, the nearest hospitals and specialists are located an hour away in Springfield, West Plains and Branson, Missouri.

**Shopping:** facilities are better than average for a town of this size. Ava hosts a natural food store, Walmart, antiques stores, archery shop, and a variety of restaurants. In addition Ava is approximately one hour from Springfield and Branson. Branson is world famous for musical shows and Silver Dollar City amusement park. There are four banks with full banking facilities and three full service savings
and loan establishments as well. Movie goers have access to one theater in Ava.

Churches: of many denominations can be found in Ava and the surrounding area. Civic organizations include: Lion’s Club, Rotary, and Kiwanis Clubs.

Weather: summers average 85° F, however, occasionally temperatures reach 100° F and above in July and August. Winters have an average high temperature of 44 °F. Temperatures may drop below 0 degrees for short periods of time. Annual rainfall averages just over 44 inches.

For more information, check out the Ava Chamber of Commerce website, Ava Missouri Area Chamber of Commerce (hit Ctrl and click on this hyperlink to connect to the website).
Position of Interest: Forester (Timber Sale Preparation)
Series/Grade: GS – 0462 – 08/09
Location: Ava, MO

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<td>Where Did You Hear About Vacancy/Outreach?:</td>
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If you are NOT a current permanent (career or career conditional) employee, are you eligible to be hired under any of the following authorities:

- [ ] Reinstatement
- [ ] Veterans Recruitment Act
- [ ] Person with Disabilities
- [ ] Disabled Veteran with 30% Compensable Disability
- [ ] Former Peace Corps Volunteer
- [ ] Veteran’s Employment Opportunities Act of 1998
- [ ] Pathways (former Student Career Experience Program)
- [ ] Other
- [ ] Not Current Employee

Additional Remarks

How to apply:
Interested applicants should submit this outreach response form to tecrowe@fs.fed.us by close of business **January 17, 2018**. Please direct any questions to Troy Crowe, Forester (TMA) at 417-967-4194 or at the email above. **Thank you for your interest.**