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**OUTREACH NOTICE**

**USDA Forest Service**

**El Yunque National Forest**

**[GS-0462-7/8/9 Forestry Technician]**

Please respond by October 9, 2015

The USDA Forest Service, El Yunque National Forest will soon be advertising and filling a permanent Forestry Technician position. This position is responsible for operation and maintenance of recreation facilities, trails and dispersed sites in the only tropical rainforest in the National Forest System. This is an exciting opportunity and will provide the person selected with a challenging and rewarding experience. The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to identify potential candidates and help the deciding official determine the grade level and the area of consideration for advertisement.

**Outreach Response**

You may contact Manuel Ortiz, Administration & Property Team Leader (787) 888-5669 or via email at [mortiz@fs.fed.us](mailto:mortiz@fs.fed.us) for more information and to express your interest in this position.

**Parties who are potentially interested in this position are encouraged to fill out the brief form attached below and submit it via email or fax.**

**Location:** This position will be located in Rio Grande, PR.

**Major Duties:**

Exercises the full range of supervisory duties for two permanent employee directing and reviewing work. Plans, schedules, and coordinates work, and solves difficult technical problems in the area of recreation operation and maintenance.

Administers recreation operation and maintenance program including developed sites and dispersed recreation areas. Prepares maintenance work plans for the short and and long term care and upkeep of recreation facilities. Keeps track of budget expenditures.

Coordinates, plans, and directs all trail construction and maintenance work on the forest. Responsible for accomplishment of trail targets. Monitors condition and use of forest trails.

Conducts public safety condition surveys on all forest recreation areas. Prepares abatement plans to correct unsafe conditions that affects the forest, visitors.

Work with facility engineers in conducting annual condition surveys on all recreational related facilities. Provides leadership and the example to follow on all work activities in the area of Safety and Health. Conducts tailgate safety meetings and provides information on safe work practices to subordinates.

Writes monthly accomplishment reports to keep immediate supervisor informed of field activities; Writes and submits reports required by Forest Service programs; submits written proposals/recommendation for improvements and efficiency of Forest programs to the Administration and Property Team Leader.

Plans and coordinates with procurement specialist for the acquisition of materials and supplies needed to execute program. Makes purchases utilizing Government Purchase Card. Ensures proper storage and upkeep of recreation maintenance equipment and supplies and conducts annual inventories.

Serves as Inspector/COR on recreation O&M contracts.

Serves as Liaison with the Puerto Rico Department of Correction (PRDOC) on an agreement for recreation O&M work and road and trail maintenance. Oversee (through subordinates) the inmates crew work and communicates to PRDOC officers guarding the crews any situations requiring their attention.

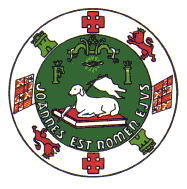
**The Forest:**

[](http://www.iit.edu/~PR/pr.html)El Yunque National Forest, is located 25 miles southeast of the capital (San Juan). It is the only tropical rain forest in the U.S. National Forest System. Originally set aside in 1876 by the Spanish Crown, the Forest represents one of the oldest reserves in the Western Hemisphere. With over 240 species (26 species are found nowhere else) of trees and plants, give reason to the government of Puerto Rico to spend a great deal of money to preserve floral species and animals that are on the verge of extinction.

The Forest contains rare wildlife including the Puerto Rican Parrot, which is one of the ten most endangered species of birds in the world. Its scientific name is Amazona vitatta. Its primary habitat is the upper zones of the Luquillo Mountains. Approximately 50 other bird species are found on the Forest.

El Yunque N.F. is the rainiest of all the National Forests with up to 200 inches per year. More than 100 billion gallons of rainwater fall on the Forest per year. The climate is frost-free and ranges in moisture from semi-desert to rain forest conditions within very short distances. There are strong easterly trade winds and cool weather is normal at the higher elevations. El Yunque is part of the Luquillo range and is divided into four forest types: Tabonuco Forest, Palo Colorado Forest, Palma Sierra Forest, and Cloud Forest. In December, 2005, the President signed into law the Caribbean National Forest Act which designated 10,000 acres of the forest as the El Toro Wilderness Area, the first wilderness area to be designated in a tropical rainforest.

**Puerto Rico:**

For such a small island, Puerto Rico has a lot of history. Epic battles were fought at land and sea between massive armadas in an attempt to steal Puerto Rico from the Spanish. Kings and Queens from all over the world visited the island just to catch a glimpse of its beauty and many explorers voyaged in hopes of bringing knowledge and riches back to their home countries.

Because of its prime location in the world, Puerto Rican culture is the product of a fusion between Taíno indian, African slave, and Spanish colonial influences. Year-round religious-based festivals, deeply rooted in tradition, are a perfect window into Spain's influence on modern day Puerto Rico. The lyrics and the beating of the drums of a salsa, bomba and plena song evoke crystal clear images of the hardships of the African slaves. The liveliness of the spices in modern cuisine is reminiscent of the first meals of the Taínos. These influences are as alive in Puerto Rico today as they were in our beginning, some five centuries ago.

Puerto Rico is a self-governing commonwealth in association with the United States. The chief of state is the President of the United States of America. The head of government is an elected Governor. There are two legislative chambers: the House of Representatives, 51 seats, and the Senate, 27 seats. Puerto Rican institutions control internal affairs unless U.S. law is involved, as in matters of public health and pollution.

This subtropical island has developed into the only Caribbean island where industry and commerce has exceeded primary agricultural production. Economically Puerto Rico has a greater variety of industrial, commercial, and financial service activities and a better-developed transportation network than other Caribbean islands. Statistics show that it has some of the most favorable economic and demographic conditions in Latin America and the Caribbean.

**For additional information, check out the following web sites…….**

**>>** [**http://www.caribbeanbusinesspr.com/about\_puerto\_rico/eng/index.php**](http://www.caribbeanbusinesspr.com/about_puerto_rico/eng/index.php)

**>>** [**http://welcome.topuertorico.org/index.shtml**](http://welcome.topuertorico.org/index.shtml)

**>>** [**http://www.seepuertorico.com/**](http://www.seepuertorico.com/)

**>>** [**http://www.meetpuertorico.com/Index.html**](http://www.meetpuertorico.com/Index.html)

**>>** [**http://www.fs.usda.gov/elyunque**](http://www.fs.usda.gov/elyunque)

**Please respond by 10/9/2015**

**OUTREACH RESPONSE FORM**

**Southern Region, USDA Forest Service**

**El Yunque National Forest**

**GS-802-7/8/9 Engineering Technician**

Duty Location: Rio Grande, P.R.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please let us know by returning the reply form before ***October 9, 2015***

Send your notice to:

**Manuel Ortiz**

**Phone: 787-888-5669 Fax: 787-888-5685**

**Email:** [**mortiz@fs.fed.us**](mailto:mortiz@fs.fed.us)

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HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT THIS OUTREACH NOTICE?

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**Thank you for your interest in our Vacancy!**