USDA Forest Service
Pacific Southwest Research Station

OUTREACH NOTICE
Research Social Scientist,

GS-0101-12/13 (Los Angeles, CA)

The USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station (PSW) is seeking a candidate for Research Social Scientist, GS-0101-12/13. This is a permanent, full time position.   The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to inform prospective applicants of this upcoming opportunity. To express interest in this position, please complete the attached voluntary Outreach Interest Notice and return to Kevin Rincon at kevinrincon@fs.fed.us by close of business on August 22, 2016.

Brief description of duties associated with this position:

The position will be located in Los Angeles, CA. The incumbent will be a scientist in the Urban Ecosystem and Social Dynamics (UESD) Program. The UESD program of research is national in scope, with documented extensions to international applications. Three problem areas are addressed: (1) Realize an abundant and sustainable supply of ecosystems by examining the relationships among human uses, human values, ecosystem services, and management; (2) Investigate how to reconnect humans and nature considering the roles of changing demographics, cultures, urbanization, socio-economics, and technology on use and sustainability of natural resources; and (3) Manage ecosystems to better reflect the desires of the American people by determining the impacts of public policies on ecological and social patterns and processes. The goal for research in these areas is to better understand the interconnections among ecosystems, people and social institutions in ways that will inform policy and improve management of forests and other natural resources. The incumbent will conduct research across all three problem areas. An individual who has completed a graduate degree in social ecology or a similar field will be a good fit for this opportunity.

Although the incumbent contributes to all problem areas, the work focuses on thematic areas that emphasize the pairing of social and ecological systems in the urban and urban-proximate context. Themes the incumbent is expected to pursue include: (1) the sociocultural benefits of urban forests and green spaces in human health and well-being (from the individual to community scale); (2) methods and approaches to enhancing urban sustainability through the paired examination of social and ecological systems; (3) methods and approaches to enhancing community, stakeholder, agency, and institutional collaboratives focused on socio-ecological connections and urban ecosystem sustainability (including citizen science); (4) policies and practices that may enhance urban community sustainability. Each one contributes to one or more of the Program's problem areas. Results are expected to inform and improve urban natural resources and human community sustainability.

About PSW:

PSW is one of several research stations in the research and development (R&D) arm of the Forest Service, a component of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and works at the forefront of science to improve the health and use of our Nation's forests and grasslands. The work has a steady focus on informing policy and land-management decisions, whether it addresses invasive plants and insects, degraded river ecosystems, or sustainable ways to harvest forest products. Our researchers work independently and with a range of partners, including other agencies, academia, nonprofit groups, and industry. The information and technology produced through basic and applied science programs is available to the public for its benefit and use.

Community and Surrounding Area:

Los Angeles, CA

Los Angeles is a large city, home to approximately 3,904,657 and is located in southern California. It is known for its many museums and historical sites of interest, art and theatre, entertainment options, shopping, dining, and recreation settings. Closest to the Angeles National Forest, Los Angeles is also within a short distance of the Los Padres National Forest. Within a few hour's drive of the city you can arrive at beaches, mountains, or desert locations. The Los Angeles office is co-located with partners and the hub for our center for Natural Resource Sustainability Research.

How to apply:

The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to determine the potential applicant pool for this position and to establish the appropriate recruitment method and area of consideration for the advertisement. *If you are interested in applying for this position*, complete the attached Outreach Notice Response Form and return it to Kevin Rincon at kevinrincon@fs.fed.us no later than close of business August 22, 2016.

This outreach form does not constitute an application. The vacancy announcement will appear on the USAJOBS website. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Outreach Response Notice Sheet

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USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station
Please submit outreach response to Kevin Rincon by close of business August 22, 2016.
Email: kevinrincon@fs.fed.us   Phone: 951-680-1561

Name:

Date:

Mailing Address:

Phone:

E-Mail:

Are you a current Federal employee?   ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you answered "yes" to the question above

Current agency employed with:

Enter your current position title:

Series:

Grade:

Location:

Indicate the type of appointment you are currently under:

  (Career, Career-Conditional, Excepted, Excepted VRA, Temporary, Term, PWD, Other)

How did you find out about this outreach notice?

If you are not a current permanent (Career or Career-Conditional) employee, are you eligible to be hired under any of the following special authorities?

☐ Person with disabilities   ☐ Disabled veteran with 30% compensable disability

☐ Veterans Recruitment Act   ☐ Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998

☐ Pathways Program   ☐ Former peace Corps Volunteer

Thank you for your interest in our vacancy.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.