



Outreach Notice

Natural Resource Specialist, GS-0401- 9/11/12

(Cooperative Forestry Program Coordinator)

State and Private Forestry

Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands

The International Institute of Tropical Forestry (IITF), Office of State and Private Forestry, will be re-advertising a Natural Resources Specialist, GS-0401-9/11/12, full-time, permanent position. Note: The ideal candidate will have strong Spanish language skills.

The Cooperative Forestry Program Coordinator (CFPC) position is based in the headquarters building of the International Institute of Tropical Forestry in Rio Piedras, San Juan, Puerto Rico. Primary duties include leading the Cooperative Forestry Program for the Forest Service in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. More specifically, the CFPC will be responsible for the Forest Stewardship and Urban and Community Forestry Programs.

The CFPC will serve as a liaison with employees of other federal agencies and will work closely with Puerto Rican and U.S. Virgin Islands State government agencies, local officials, non-governmental agencies, municipalities, private organizations and landowners who are affected by, or have a shared interest in, forest land management practices, opportunities and challenges.

The CFPC will communicate the program mission and vision to diverse audiences through presentations, strategic plans, work plans, and other written and verbal forms of communication. She/he will assist with the development of briefing materials and updates for Regional and National leadership. She/he will provide technical assistance to partners with a focus on Stewardship and Urban Forestry programs. Additionally, she/he will provide assistance to partners in development of annual and long-term plans.

The CFPC will also develop and administer grants and cooperative agreements with state and private entities consistent with OMB and agency regulations and policies.

The International Institute of Tropical Forestry is located in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, in metropolitan San Juan, on the grounds of the Botanical Garden of the University of Puerto Rico. The island has a population of 3.9 million people and is approximately 105 miles long by 35 miles wide. It is located 1,000 miles southeast of Miami, Florida.

There is a wide choice of excellent housing alternatives, from condominiums to single family homes. One can choose to live in settings that range from highly urbanized to rural or coastal. Medical facilities are of excellent quality. Public and private schools from pre-K through high school are available, with some private schools providing bilingual instruction. Puerto Rico has a diverse university system, including the University of Puerto Rico, the largest PhD-granting Hispanic University in the United States.

Puerto Rico has shopping opportunities that are equal to mainland United States. Local grocery stores, Walmart, Costco, Sam's Club, J.C. Penney, Macy's, Sear's, Home Depot, Office Depot, Big K, malls, outlet malls and many other options. Plaza Las Americas is reputed to be the largest mall between Miami and Rio de Janeiro! Puerto Rico uses the U.S. Mail system and has U.S. Post Offices throughout the island. Most internet or phone orders (i.e. Amazon) can be mailed or shipped to Puerto Rico without any issues.

The climate is tropical with nearly constant northeasterly trade winds. There is an average temperature of 85° F in the summer and 73° F in the winter. Mountain areas can be up to 20° cooler in the winter. Puerto Rico offers many attractions, including beaches, tropical forests (El Yunque National Forest is the southernmost National Forest in the United States), Old San Juan – one of the oldest Spanish colonial settlements in the Western Hemisphere and fine cuisine. Many outdoor activities are available, including swimming, fishing, hiking, surfing, kite surfing, boating/sailing, windsurfing, kayaking, caving, birdwatching and others.

An excellent comprehensive website on Puerto Rico is found at <http://www.caribbeanbusiness.com>

Note: Federal employees in Puerto Rico receive Locality Pay. Relocation expenses will not be paid.

If you are interested in this position or would like to receive more information, please call Magaly Figueroa, State and Private Forestry Program Manager, at (787) 764-7718, or email her at mafigueroa@fs.fed.us.

USDA Forest Service is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Outreach Response Form

If you are interested in the position and want to receive a copy of the vacancy announcement, please complete and return this form no later than July 9, 2018. Send the completed form to Magaly Figueroa, SPF Program Manager, by email at mafigueroa@fs.fed.us or FAX at (787) 766-6263

Position: Natural Resource Specialist, GS-0401-9/11/12 (Cooperative Forestry Program Coordinator), International Institute of Tropical Forestry (USDA Forest Service)

Name:

Date:

Address:

Phone and email address:

Current Federal Employee: Yes ____ No ____

Current Agency:

If you are not a permanent (career or career conditional) employee, are you eligible to be hired under any of the following special authorities:

Persons with Disabilities ____

Veteran Readjustment ____

Disabled Veteran w/30% Compensable Disability ____

Veteran's Employment Opportunities Act of 1998 ____

Former Peace Corps Volunteer or Staff (NCE) ____

Student Career Experience Program ____

Workforce Flexibility Act ____

Other – explain _____

