



Outreach Notice: USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Region: San Juan National Forest



Fire Positions GW-0456-03 through GW-0456-10
Application Period: August 24th, 2026, through September 22nd, 2026
Permanent positions with various duty locations.



USDA Forest Service is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The San Juan National Forest is committed to developing and maintaining a highly skilled workforce for wildland fire operations and fuels management. The San Juan Interagency Fire and Aviation program is very rewarding and requires talented people to work safely as part of a team in a variety of specialized positions. We are looking for candidates that are self-motivated, team players, with an unbridled work ethic to join our fire/fuels/aviation management programs.

This outreach is for GW-0456-03 through GW-0456-10 permanent full-time fire and fuels positions. Positions are advertised as national and regional vacancy announcements and applicants are advised to pay close attention to duty location selections. The vacancy announcements for these positions will be posted on the U.S. Government's official website for employment opportunities at [USAJobs.gov](https://www.usajobs.gov)

Centralized Fire Hire events are implemented to streamline the hiring process for permanent fire positions providing consistent hiring around the Region and throughout the agency. **The unique feature of this process is the ability to immediately backfill any position that may be vacated while in the fire hire event. Applicants are encouraged to apply for all positions and all locations where they would accept a position if offered. Vacancies may occur during the hiring process and could be filled during Selection Week.**

If you are interested in applying to a position through the Fire Hire process, please contact Lance Martin at lance.martin@usda.gov or Toby Cook at toby.cook@usda.gov or any of the contacts listed in this document. **Your response is important! The personal touch and outreach can sometimes set you apart as hiring managers work through hundreds of applications each year.**

About the San Juan National Forest:

The San Juan National Forest is headquartered in Durango, CO and is responsible for management of 1.8 million acres in Southwest Colorado. Primary management activities include recreation, range and timber management, fisheries, water quality, and heritage and cultural resources. The Weminuche Wilderness, which is Colorado's largest, spans both the San Juan and Rio Grande National Forests. The San Juan Mountains on the Forest have many peaks over 10,000 feet, with three 14,000-foot mountains in the Wilderness. The Forest spans pinyon-juniper and ponderosa pine forests at lower elevations, with large areas of aspen, spruce-fir forests at higher elevations, and alpine tundra in the highest areas.

The Forest has three Ranger Districts with offices located in Pagosa Springs, CO; Bayfield, CO; Dolores, CO and the Forest Supervisors office is located in Durango, CO. For more information about the San Juan National Forest visit: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/sanjuan/>

Pagosa Ranger District Fire/Fuels Staffing:

- District FMO/Operations AFMO/Fuels AFMO
- One 10-person fire suppression module (Pagosa Peak)
- One Type 6 Engine-Staffed with five personnel
- One 5 person Fuels Squad

Columbine Ranger District Fire/Fuels Staffing:

- District FMO/Operations AFMO/Fuels AFMO
- One 10- Person Wildland Fire Module (Columbine WFM)
- One Type 6 Engine- Staffed with five personnel
- One 5 person Fuels Squad

Dolores Ranger District Fire/Fuels Staffing:

- District FMO/Operations AFMO/Fuels AFMO
- Two Type 6 Engines- Staffed with five personnel
- One 5 person Fuels Squad

National Fire Resources Staffing:

- San Juan Interagency Hotshot Crew- Staffed with 25 personnel
- Durango Helitack Program -Staffed with 15 personnel

Durango Dispatch Staffing:

- Center Manager
- Assistant Center Manager
- 2 IA Dispatchers

Durango Tanker Base Staffing:

- Tanker Base Manager
- Assistant Tanker Base Manager
- Two Tanker Base Leads

Process and Timelines:

August 24th, 2026, – Vacancy Announcements OPEN in [USAJOBS](https://www.usajobs.gov/).

September 22nd, 2026, – Vacancy Announcements CLOSE.

September 27th, 2026 – HR Qualification Review period begins. Applicants may receive qualification review notices from USAJOBS / HR

October 27th-December 12th, 2026:

- Hiring Managers will begin the hiring process. All applicants who have applied to the announcements on or before the listed closing date and are found to be qualified will be referred for consideration.
- Supervisory Reference Checks and possible Interviews. Ensure your references and supervisors are notified and available at the email address or phone number provided on your application.
- Representatives from each unit will make recommendations for hiring. It is critical to be available via phone and email during this time.

Current Vacancies by location:**Pagosa Ranger District:**

POSITION TITLE	GRADE	VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT #	DUTY LOCATION	CONTACT
Fire Engine Operator (FEO)	GW-6/7	27-FIRE-P1R2389JC-FEOH-67DH	Pagosa Springs, CO	Ryan Souza (SFEO) ryan.souza@usda.gov
Lead Firefighter (Suppression Module)	GW5/6	27-FIRE-P1R2389-HCREW-56DH	Pagosa Springs, CO	Gregory Becker (SMOD Capt) Gregory.becker@usda.gov
Senior Firefighter (Suppression Module)	GW-3/4/5	27-FIRE-P1R2389JC-FFTR-34DH	Pagosa Springs, CO	Gregory Becker (SMOD Capt) Gregory.becker@usda.gov
Senior Firefighter (Suppression Module)	GW-3/4/5	27-FIRE-P1R2389JC-FFTR-34DH	Pagosa Springs, CO	Gregory Becker (SMOD Capt) Gregory.becker@usda.gov

Columbine Ranger District:

POSITION TITLE	GRADE	VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT #	DUTY LOCATION	CONTACT
Supervisory Firefighter (WFM T1)	GW-8/9	27-FIRE-P1VA-HCRWSUP-89DH	Bayfield, CO	Noah Daniels (DFMO) noah.daniels@usda.gov
Supervisory Firefighter (SMOD Fuels)	GW-7/8	27-FIRE-P1VA-SHDCRW-78DH	Bayfield, CO	Tyler Hoest Tyler.hoest@usda.gov
Lead Wildland Firefighter (AFEO)	GW-5/6	27-FIRE-P1R2389JC-AFEO-56DH	Bayfield, CO	Frank Stuckman (SFEO) frank.v.stuckman@usda.gov

Durango Helitack:

POSITION TITLE	GRADE	VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT #	DUTY LOCATION	Contact
Senior Firefighter (Helitack)	GW-4/5	27-FIRE-P12389JC-SRFF-45DH	Durango, CO	Gabe Vera (HMGR) Gabriel.vera@usda.gov

Durango Tanker Base:

POSITION TITLE	GRADE	VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT #	DUTY LOCATION	Contact
Lead Firefighter (Base Ramp Manager)	GW-6/7	27-FIRE-P1VA-AIRTNKB-67DH	Durango, CO	Mike Bryson (TBMGR) Michael.bryson@usda.gov

Dolores Ranger District:

POSITION TITLE	GRADE	VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT #	DUTY LOCATION	CONTACT
Supervisory Firefighter (District AFMO High Cplx)	GW-8/9	27-FIRE-P12389-DZAFMOH-89DH	Dolores, CO	Caleb Schutz (DFMO) caleb.schutz@usda.gov
Supervisory Firefighter (District AFMO Moderate Cplx)	GW-8/9	27-FIRE-P1VA-DZAFMOM-89DH	Dolores, CO	Caleb Schutz (DFMO) caleb.schutz@usda.gov
Lead Firefighter (AFEO)	GW-5/6	27-FIRE-P1R2389JC-AFEO-56DH	Dolores, CO	Anna Sivill (SFEO) anna.sivill@usda.gov
Senior Firefighter (Engine)	GW-3/4/5	27-FIRE-P1R2389JC-FFTR-34DH	Dolores, CO	Anna Sivill (SFEO) anna.sivill@usda.gov
Senior Firefighter (Engine)	GW-3/4/5	27-FIRE-P1R2389JC-FFTR-34DH	Dolores, CO	Zach Beerman (SFEO) zach.beerman@usda.gov
Senior Firefighter (SMOD Fuels)	GW-3/4/5	27-FIRE-P1R2389JC-FFTR-34DH	Dolores, CO	Liv Elfstrom (Fuels Cpt.) liv.elfstrom@usda.gov

San Juan Hotshots:

POSITION TITLE	GRADE	VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT #	DUTY LOCATION	CONTACT
Supervisory Firefighter (IHC Captain)	GW-7/8	27-FIRE-P1VA-IHCASST-78DH	Durango, CO	Scott McCreary (Supt) scott.mccreary@usda.gov
Supervisory Firefighter (IHC Captain)	GW-7/8	27-FIRE-P1VA-IHCASST-78DH	Durango, CO	Scott McCreary (Supt) scott.mccreary@usda.gov
Lead Firefighter (IHC)	GS-5/6	27-FIRE-P1R2389-HCREW-56DH	Durango, CO	Scott McCreary (Supt) scott.mccreary@usda.gov
Lead Firefighter (IHC)	GS-5/6	27-FIRE-P1R2389-HCREW-56DH	Durango, CO	Scott McCreary (Supt) scott.mccreary@usda.gov

Durango Dispatch Center:

No known vacancies in Durango, CO. Applicants are encouraged to apply to any permanent position for which they are qualified that may become open through the Fire Hire process. All the positions at the Durango Dispatch Center that could potentially be filled in 2026 R2 Fire Hire are listed below.

Contacts:

Dennis Woods (Center Mgr.) dennis.woods@usda.gov

Rachael Zima (Asst. Center Mgr.) rachael.zima@usda.gov

For additional information on working for the Forest Service, federal resume writing and information on how to apply through USA jobs:
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/r2/jobs>

The R2 Fire Hire process is unique. Current employees are continually applying and being awarded new appointments; positions that are currently filled may become open and may need to be backfilled. Applicants are encouraged to apply to any permanent position for which they are qualified that may become open through the Fire Hire process. All the positions on the San Juan National Forest that could potentially be filled in 2025 R2 Fire Hire are listed below:

All= Pagosa Springs, Dolores, and Bayfield Colorado duty locations

Position Title	Duty Location	PP-Series-Grade	Job Opportunity Announcement
ENTRY LEVEL FIREFIGHTER			
Wildland Firefighter (Fire Suppression) FPL GW-5	All	GW-0456-3/4	27-FIRE-P1R2389JC-FFTR-34DH
SUPPRESSION MODULE			
Wildland Firefighter (Senior Firefighter)	Pagosa Springs	GW-0456-4/5	27-FIRE-P12389-IHCHCRW-5DH
Lead Wildland Firefighter (SMOD)	Pagosa Springs	GW-0456-5/6	27-FIRE-P1R2389-HCREW-56DH
Wildland Firefighter (SMOD)	Pagosa Springs	GW-0456-6/7	27-FIRE-P1VA-HCREWT2-67DH
Supervisory Wildland Firefighter (SMOD)	Pagosa Springs	GW-0456-7/8	27-FIRE-P1VA-HCREWT2-78DH
SAN JUAN HOTSHOTS			
Wildland Firefighter (Hotshot Senior FF)	Durango	GW-0456-4/5	27-FIRE-P1R2389-IHCHCRW-5DH
Lead Forestry Technician (Hotshot)	Durango	GW-0456-5/6	27-FIRE-P1R2389-HCREW-56DH
Lead Wildland Firefighter (IHC Squad Leader)	Durango	GW-0456-6/7	27-FIRE-P1VA-IHCSQLR-67DH
Supervisory Forestry Tech (Hotshot Asst.)	Durango	GW-0462-7/8	27-FIRE-P1VA-IHCASST-78DH
Supervisory Firefighter (Hotshot Supt)	Durango	GW-0462-10	27-FIRE-P1VA-IHCSUPT-10DH
COLUMBINE WILDFIRE MODULE			
Wildland Firefighter (Senior Firefighter)	Bayfield	GW-0456-4/5	27-FIRE-P1R2389-IHCHCRW-5DH
Lead Wildland Firefighter (Type 1 WFM)	Bayfield	GW-0456-5/6	27-FIRE-P1R2389-HCREW-56DH
Wildland Firefighter (Type 1 WFM Assistant)	Bayfield	GW-0456-7/8	27-FIRE-P1VA-HCREWT1-78DH
Supervisory Wildland Firefighter (Type 1 WFM)	Bayfield	GW-0456-8/9	27-FIRE-P1VA-HCRWSUP-89DH

Position Title	Duty Location	PP-Series-Grade	Job Opportunity Announcement
DURANGO HELITACK			
Wildland Firefighter (Senior FF Helitack)	Durango	GW-0456-05	27-FIRE-P12389JC-SRFF-45DH
Lead Wildland Firefighter (Helitack)	Durango	GW-0456-6/7	27-FIRE-P1VA-HTKSQLR-67DH
Supervisory Wildland Firefighter (Asst. Helitack)	Durango	GW-0456-7/8	27-FIRE-P1VA-HTKASST-78DH
Supervisory Wildland Firefighter (Mgr. Helitack)	Durango	GW-0456-09	27-FIRE-P1VA-HLTKMGR-9DH
ENGINES			
Wildland Firefighter (Senior FF Engine)	All	GW-0456-4/5	27-FIRE-P12389-ENGSRFF-5DH
Lead Wildland Firefighter (AFEO)	All	GW-0462-5/6	27-FIRE-P1R2389-AFEO-56DH
Wildland Firefighter (FEO)	All	GW-0456-6/7	27-FIRE-P1R2389-FEOH-67DH
Supervisory Wildland Firefighter (SFE OH)	All	GW-0456-7/8	27-FIRE-P1R2389-SFE OH-78DH
SMOD (FUELS)			
Senior Firefighter (Fuels SMOD)	All	GW-0456-4/5	27-FIRE-P1R2389-IHCHCRW-5DH
Lead Firefighter (Fuels SMOD)	All	GW-0456-5/6	27-FIRE-P1R2389-HCREW-56DH
Supervisory Wildland Firefighter (Fuels SMOD)	All	GW-0456-7/8	27-FIRE-P1VA-SHDCRW-78DH
DUANGO DISPATCH CENTER			
IA Dispatcher	Durango	GW-0462-4/5/6/7	27-FIRE-P1VA-IADIS-4567DH
Asst. Center Manager	Durango	GW-0462-8/9	27-FIRE-P1VA-IADISP-89DH
FOREST PREVENTION PROGRAM			
Prevention Specialist	Durango	GW-0456-8/9	27-FIRE-P1VA-PREVSUP-89DH
AIRTANKER BASE			
Wildland Firefighter (Airtanker Base Support)	Durango	GW-0456-05	27-FIRE-P1VA-AIRTNK-5DH
Wildland Firefighter (Base Ramp Manager)	Durango	GW-0456-6/7	27-FIRE-P1VA-AIRTNK-67DH
Wildland Firefighter (Asst. Airtanker Base Manager)	Durango	GW-0456-7/8	27-FIRE-P1VA-AIRTNK-78DH
Wildland Firefighter (Airtanker Base Manager)	Durango	GW-0456-8/9	27-FIRE-P1VA-AIRTNK-89DH
ASSTITANT FIRE MANAGEMENT OFFICER-SUPPRESSION/FUELS			
Wildland Firefighter (DZAFMO High Complexity)	All	GW-0456-8/9	27-FIRE-P1R238-DZAFMOH-89DH
Wildland Firefighter (Fuels Specialist)	All	GW-0462-8/9	27-FIRE-P1R2389-DFUELS-89DH

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