

Temp Hiring FY19 Colville National Forest, Kettle Falls, Washington – Wildlife on the west zone will have 2 positions. One GS-5 and one GS-5 or 4.

What does the wildlife crew do?

Work is usually off-trail in the mountains in rugged terrain and weather ranging from cold and wet to hot and dry, conducting surveys and monitoring for a variety of habitat and species to support projects, primarily large ecosystem management projects, which includes timber harvest. Early- and mid-season work will primarily involve searching for goshawks (primarily using recorded calls) in areas in which projects will occur within the next few years, with mid- and late-season work consisting of more habitat-related data collection. Other potential work may include acoustic bat monitoring, great grey owl searches, yellow billed cuckoo habitat surveys, installation of outhouse vent caps to prevent bird death, food storage locker installation, etc. Work in the office includes assembling field equipment and maps, determining travel routes to survey locations, downloading GPS data and cameras, and processing information collected. Field work requires the proficient use of compass, digital camera, radio, GPS units, goshawk calling equipment, and vehicles (primarily trucks).



Work week is 4 10-hour days, with ½-hour off for lunch in the field. Most days are in the field, although there will be data entry work in support of the field work, and training. Applicants will drive Forest Service vehicles to the field with drives up to 2 hours one-way to work locations. Required dress is field boots, long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and hardhat (provided). The crew consists of 2 seasonal employees who are supervised by a wildlife biologist, who generally does not work with the crew in the field, so the ability to work independently and with others is important.

Bunkhouse space is very limited and may not be feasible. Ideal dates are late-May to mid-Sept., but these are negotiable timeframes.

How and when to apply?

The application period on USA Jobs is open September 17th- October 12th. The Colville National Forest is in Region 6. The duty station for these positions is Kettle Falls, WA and official title is biological science technician.

About the Colville National Forest

The area originated with the Big Bang some 13.8 billion years ago. Fast-forward to about 200 million years ago (mya) and the edge of the continent lay east of the Forest. A series of small continental plates accreted to the continent and slowly moved the shoreline westward. Associated subduction, uplifting, volcanic sediment baking and eroding form the base for the varied landforms in the area, which were in place about 37 mya. Overlay a volcanic ash cap and soils influenced by continental and montane glaciation, and you

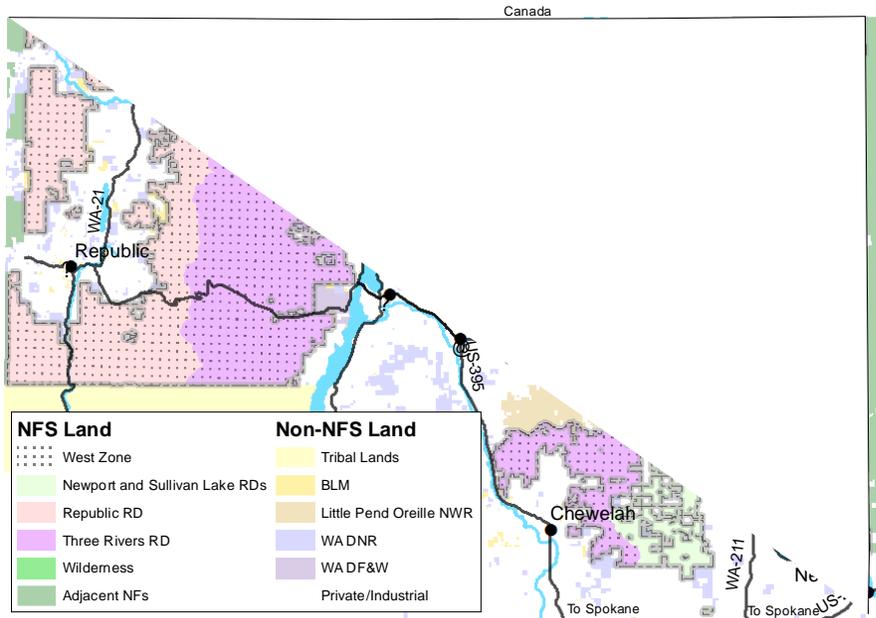
have the current condition in northeast Washington: north-south trending mountain ranges and narrow valleys, elevations that range from 1200' to 7300', climate with both continental and maritime influences, and precipitation that increases from about 12" in the rainshadow of the Cascades in the southwest part of the Forest to more than 50" in the northeast. The area contains portions of both the Okanogan and the Northern Rocky Mountains ecological provinces.

These varied physical conditions create a variety of habitats that grade from the ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir forests that occupy the drier, western portion to Western red-cedar and hemlock forests on the moister east side. Higher elevations support spruce, subalpine fir and whitebark pine. Agricultural fields and grasslands cover most valley bottoms. The variety of habitats support the wide diversity of plants and animals in the area.

Northeast Washington is home to about 235 species of birds (T&E yellow-billed cuckoo...recorded once), 75 species of mammals (T&E lynx, grizzly bear, woodland caribou, wolverine), 20 species of herptiles, 100 species of butterflies, and at least 17 species of bumble bees. Sasquatch, or an imposter, has been infrequently sighted. Fun fact: Within the continental US, only in northeastern Washington/northern Idaho and Yellowstone do all the large mammals that were extant when Europeans arrived still roam...and all live on the Colville National Forest.

The Forest covers about 1.1 million acres in Ferry, Stevens and Pend Oreille counties. It is bounded on the east by Idaho, the north by Canada, and the west by Okanogan County. From the Canadian border, the Forest extends southward for up to 60 miles. West of the Columbia River the CNF shares its southern boundary with the Colville Confederated Tribes Indian Reservation. Elevations on the Forest range from about 1,800 feet to Gypsy Peak's summit at 7,309 feet. The Forest is divided into 4 Ranger Districts with offices in Colville (Supervisor's Office), Kettle Falls (Three Rivers RD), Newport, Republic and Sullivan Lake (eponymous RDs). One wilderness, the Salmo-Priest, lies in the northeast corner of the Forest.

Most places call themselves outdoor recreation paradises, but northeast Washington really is one. Our lakes, rivers and streams offer abundant fishing opportunities. Hunters pursue big game and forest grouse in the autumn and turkeys primarily in the spring. Trails crisscross the Forest, with opportunities to pleausrably injure yourself in a variety of ways: hiking; alpine, cross-country and backcountry skiing; mountain biking; snowmobiling; and motorcycling or ATVing on more than a hundred miles of single track and a growing network of ATV routes. You can also rock climb, swim, pursue watersports, watch birds, or just find solitude in the Salmo-Priest Wilderness or other roadless areas. No matter what your recreational interests are, you'll probably find an opportunity to explore them further on the beautiful Colville National Forest! And if you run out of opportunities, Canada and its mountains are only 30 miles to the north!



The City of Kettle Falls and Surrounding Area

Kettle Falls is named for the nearby (now submerged) Kettle Falls on the Columbia River, an ancient and important fishing site for Native Americans. About 1,600 people and one grouse live in the town, which has amenities for basic needs and everything if your needs are simple including a natural food store, a brewery, a performing arts theater, a few restaurants, and a library.

Colville (10 miles away, population of about 5,000 and the largest town in NE Washington) is a full-service community with 2 stop lights and 2 roundabouts; serves as the county seat for Stevens County; offers larger stores, restaurants/bars, holds a twice-a-week Farmer's Market, and has a library. About halfway between the two towns, one of the country's last drive-in theaters features new films every weekend throughout the summer.

Republic (40 miles west, population of about 1,000) is the county seat for Ferry County and is a full-service, rural community.

Spokane, the largest city on the northern tier between Seattle and Minneapolis, is about 80 miles (1hr and a half) to the south and has everything your heart might desire, excluding orcas (sorry). Flights out of Spokane International Airport directly or indirectly carry passengers to any destination imaginable.

If you have any questions about this opportunity feel free to contact the west zone wildlife biologist Kelsey Retich. kretich@fs.fed.us (509)738-7727



