



# U.S. Forest Service

## SOUTHERN REGION

### **GS12 Level Outreach Notice: Multiple Positions, Location Options**

**Your Chance to Make History as a Part of Something New, Exciting, and Fun!**

#### **Opportunity**

We are looking for entrepreneurs to serve as Sub-Regional Volunteer and Service Specialists, exploring and implementing new ways to engage the full spectrum of the public in the management of their lands (refer to the background provided below for more information). Existing Forest Service employees may apply for a three year detail or temporary promotion. External candidates may apply for this three-year opportunity through a partner organization. The Southern Region is in conversation with Greening Youth Foundation to serve as the partner for this initiative. The Forest Service positions will be at the GS-12 compensation and performance level, and will likely be advertised with the option to convert to a permanent position at the end of three years. The partner positions will be at the GS-12 compensation and performance level as well, and may either become permanent or lead to the opportunity to compete for a permanent Forest Service job. Salary tables are located at <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/2018/general-schedule/>.

Major duties include:

- Serves as agent for change, helping the organization to facilitate Volunteer and Service Program (VSP) partnerships as a way of achieving success on the units while facilitating partners and staff collaborations to support the Forest Service mission.
- Assists managers to provide resources to enhance volunteer engagement, maintaining existing partnerships and developing new relationships with governmental, non-governmental, non-profit, tribal government, media, academic, and other organizations to support VSP projects that result in high priority conservation work. Maintains focus on Developing and managing partnerships that result in partner employees stationed on Districts as VSP Coordinators.
- Serves as a technical expert, applying an understanding of VSP policies, and Forest Service-wide strategic focus areas to assist leadership in developing and implementing goals, objectives, vision and values for the program.
- Ensures VSP work aligns with the Forest Service Volunteer Strategy and the Sustainable Recreation goals of citizen stewardship, workforce development, community enhancement, strategic partnerships, and customer service.
- Participates as a key member of the regional VSP and liaison between regional and local efforts to align volunteer and service partnership activities across the region. May serve as a strike team member when units outside of their sub-region need assistance.
- Leads the development and implementation of an outreach strategies to identify potential partners and collaborations for high performing projects; facilitate continuous improvement, monitoring, reporting and accountability for VSP; deliver of training and technical resources to the forest, sub-region, or national program; and prove promotion, communication and transparency across all levels of the organization utilizing a wide range of mediums including social media, intranet/internet, and other tools.

## Locations

Duty location options are the Supervisor's Offices within the Southern Region. Final locations will be determined based on the responses to this outreach.

The location options are:

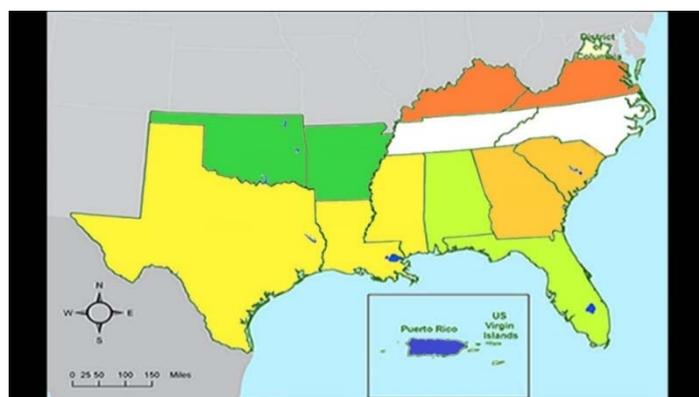
- Montgomery, AL (National Forests in Alabama)
- Gainesville, GA (Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest)
- Cleveland, TN (Cherokee National Forest)
- Winchester, KY (Daniel Boone National Forest)
- Tallahassee, FL (National Forests in Florida)
- Columbia, SC (Francis Marion & Sumter National Forest)
- Roanoke, VA (George Washington & Jefferson National Forest)
- Pineville, LA (Kisatchie National Forest)
- Golden Pond, KY (Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area)
- Jackson, MS (National Forests in Mississippi)
- Asheville, NC (National Forests in North Carolina)
- Hot Springs, AR (Ouachita National Forest)
- Russellville, AR (Ozark-St. Francis National Forest)
- Lufkin, TX (National Forest and Grasslands in TX)

## Southern Region Center of Excellence

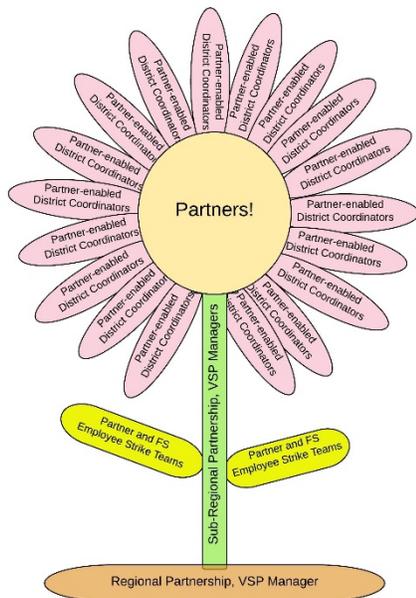
The Southern Region of the US Forest Service is embarking on an entrepreneurial "Center of Excellence" initiative to explore a new way of doing business in Volunteer & Service Programs. The pilot phase of the initiative will be three years. We fully expect success, which will result in permanent adoption of the new organizational model we will be piloting at the end of three years.

The Center of Excellence entails hiring six Sub-Regional VSP Coordinators to serve as incubators, catalysts, managers, supporters, and co-leaders of partnerships that will result in boots-on-the-ground VSP Coordinators at the District level across the region. Three of the Sub-Regional Coordinators will be GS-12 Forest Service employees, and three will be GS-12 level compensated partner employees.

The Sub-Regional Coordinators will report to, and be supervised by (guided by in the case of the partner employees), the Southern Regional Office in Atlanta, GA. They will be stationed in Forest Supervisor's Offices within their respective sub-regions.



Map of the Sub-Regions



Center of Excellence “Organization Chart”

Starting on day one, the Sub-Regional Coordinators will serve as the key contacts for existing and new partners who are interested in enhancing VSP management across all program areas on the Districts throughout the Southern Region. Sub-Regional Coordinators will work with these partners to empower them to hire staff that will be provided workstations in Districts throughout the region. The partner staff stationed in District offices will serve as the District VSP Coordinator.

Partners interested in employing District VSP Coordinators will have opportunities to apply for grants and to participate in Challenge Cost Share Agreements to support their efforts. The Sub-Regional Coordinators will serve as the hub for helping partners obtain the financial and organizational resources necessary to hire the partner-enabled District VSP Coordinators.

Sub-Regional Coordinators will also be responsible for developing and deploying VSP strike teams, which will be comprised of skilled partner and agency employees who are able to help, mentor, and train growing District level partnerships to be successful in this new approach.

## To Respond

Please respond to this outreach notice by e-mail to [michellemitchell@fs.fed.us](mailto:michellemitchell@fs.fed.us) with cc to [kellybalcarczyk@fs.fed.us](mailto:kellybalcarczyk@fs.fed.us), and via the outreach database. E-mail responses should include your:

- Resume
- Preferred Duty station and any additional duty stations where you would be willing to work
- Choice of employer. Existing FS employees may choose the Forest Service or Partner as an employer. Non-FS employees may only choose Partner.
- Need for relocation assistance (yes or no)

Questions about the Center of Excellence and these opportunities may be directed to the email addresses above or to Michelle Mitchell at 404-347-1749 or Kelly Balcarczyk at 404-347-3357.