

FF Special Retirement Coverage

Standard Position Description (SPD)# F242

Certification of CSRS Primary (FF) coverage approval for the above SPD can be found in the signed OPM general coverage certification letter dated 07/29/91.

Certification of FERS Primary-Rigorous (FF) coverage approval for the above SPD can be found in the signed DOI general coverage certification sheet dated 10/02/91.

POSITION DESCRIPTION (Please Read Instructions on the Back)

1. Agency Position No.
F242

2. Reason for Submission <input type="checkbox"/> Redescription <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reestablishment		3. Service <input type="checkbox"/> Hdqtrs. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Field		4. Employing Office Location		5. Duty Station		6. OPM Certification No.	
Explanation (Show any positions replaced)				7. Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nonexempt		8. Financial Statements Required <input type="checkbox"/> Executive Personnel Financial Disclosure <input type="checkbox"/> Employment and Financial Interests		9. Subject to IA Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
				10. Position Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Competitive <input type="checkbox"/> Excepted (Specify in Remarks) <input type="checkbox"/> SES (Gen.) <input type="checkbox"/> SES (CR)		11. Position Is: <input type="checkbox"/> Supervisory <input type="checkbox"/> Managerial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neither		12. Sensitivity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-Non-Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/> 2-Noncritical Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/> 3-Critical Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/> 4-Special Sensitive	
								13. Competitive Level Code	
								14. Agency Use	

15. Classified/Graded by	Official Title of Position	Pay Plan	Occupational Code	Grade	Initials	Date
a. U.S. Office of Personnel Management						
b. Department, Agency or Establishment						
c. Second Level	PROTECTION FORESTRY Technician (Smokejumper)	GS	462	06		11/21/90
d. First Level Review						
e. Recommended by Supervisor or Initiating Office	Forestry Technician (Smokejumper)	GS	462	06	mth	05-25-90

16. Organizational Title of Position (if different from official title)
Smokejumper

17. Name of Employee (if vacant, specify)

18. Department, Agency, or Establishment
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

a. First Subdivision
Bureau of Land Management

b. Second Subdivision

c. Third Subdivision

d. Fourth Subdivision

e. Fifth Subdivision

19. Employee Review—This is an accurate description of the major duties and responsibilities of my position.

20. Supervisory Certification. I certify that this is an accurate statement of the major duties and responsibilities of this position and its organizational relationships, and that the position is necessary to carry out Government functions for which I am responsible. This certification is made with the knowledge that this information is to be used for statutory purposes related to appointment and payment of public funds, and that false or misleading statements may constitute violations of such statutes or their implementing regulations.

a. Typed Name and Title of Immediate Supervisor
Signature: _____ Date: _____

b. Typed Name and Title of Higher-Level Supervisor or Manager (optional)
L. BARKOW Ch Fire & Aviation
Signature: (signed) L. BARKOW Date: JAN 18 1991

21. Classification/Job Grading Certification. I certify that this position has been classified/graded as required by Title 5, U.S. Code, in conformance with standards published by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management or, if no published standards apply directly, consistently with the most applicable published standards.

22. Position Classification Standards Used in Classifying/Grading Position
GS-455/462

Information for Employees. The standards, and information on their applicability are available in the personnel office. The classification of the position may be reviewed and corrected by the agency or the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. Information on classification/job grading appeals, and complaints on exemption from FLSA, is available from the personnel office or the U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

Typed Name and Title of Official Taking Action
JULIET B. POWELL
Personnel Management Specialist
Signature: Juliet Powell Date: 11/21/90

23. Position Review	Initials	Date								
a. Employee (optional)										
b. Supervisor										
c. Classifier										

24. Remarks
SUBJECT TO DRUG TESTING

Special Retirement Coverage:
 Firefighter GSRS: date approved 7/21/91
 Law Enforcement FERS: date approved 10/21/91
 Primary/rigorous secondary/administrative secondary/supervisory

This position is for young and physically vigorous individuals and is subject to the maximum entry age restrictions.

Forestry Technician (Smokejumper), GS-462-6
Smokejumper
Position No. F242

INTRODUCTION

This position is located in a BLM fire suppression organization. The primary function of this position is to parachute into inaccessible areas and suppress wildfires.

DUTIES

1. Serves as a highly trained and skilled member of a parachuting fire suppression squad which jumps over forest and mountainous terrain landing in timber, open, or on rough ground.

As a fire crewmember of Initial Attack Incident Commander, suppresses and controls small fires by applying an understanding of power tools, operating pumps, building fire lines, burning out, mopping up, and patrolling lines. May supervise one or more firefighters who accompany him on fires. At the fire, anticipates fire behavior, determines suppression tactics, extinguishes hot spots, builds fire lines, and takes action to control fire. Determines need for and orders additional firefighters and equipment. Designates safe air cargo drop zones where tools and supplies can be delivered by plane. Determines probable cause of fires and prepares required fire reports. If man-caused, gathers and preserves evidence for possible use in prosecuting offenders.

Completes forms connected with parachute jumps, lost or damaged articles, and property control.

May be assigned to various red-carded positions in large fire organizations.

2. When not involved in fire line activities, participates in a wide range of fire support activities including parachute rigging and repair, paracargo rigging, and construction and repair of assorted smokejumper equipment.

3. Receives training in basic smokejumper skills including aircraft exits, parachute manipulation, landing techniques, and tree letdown procedures. Participates in a daily physical conditioning program maintaining a physical condition necessary to perform the duties of the position. Receives training in fire line tactics, fire behavior and organization of extended attack fires. May receive advanced training in various specialties which include paracargo, fire line explosives, emergency medical technician, and parachute loft.

4. Performs a variety of miscellaneous firefighting assignments such as performing bull cook chores or camp site construction or non-fire related project work as assigned (not to exceed 10-20% of the time in a normal fire season).

FACTORS

Factor 1, Knowledge Required by the Position

Knowledge of fire suppression methods, tactics, and procedures to be used in various types of fuels and under a variety of weather and terrain conditions. Prior line firefighting experience is required.

Skill in parachute jumping is required, including: safety checks and exit procedures from a variety of aircraft, guiding parachute to land target under different wind and drift conditions, emergency actions in case of parachute malfunction or unforeseen conditions such as terrain, ground cover, or wind drift, let down procedures for descent from tall trees, and cargo retrieval techniques.

Skill in use of hand and power tools such as Pulaski, shovel, crosscut saw, chain saw, and portable pumps is required to build fireline and control wildfire.

Thorough knowledge of accepted safety practices to prevent injury or loss of life in parachute jumping, fire suppression, helicopter, and retardant dropping operations.

Knowledge of first aid procedures to provide emergency care and transport in case of injuries.

Working knowledge of the administrative procedures applicable to time keeping, equipment reports, property control procedures, injury reports and fire reports to assist with or prepare administrative reports.

Factor 2, Supervisory Controls

Work assignments are generally given by the supervisor through a work leader in terms of current plans and policies existing for the use of smokejumpers. Explicit instructions on work methods and procedures to be used are not given unless technical problems of an unprecedented nature occur. The employee works independently as an experienced team member, often serving as a squad leader for several inexperienced smokejumpers. Work is reviewed in process and upon completion for adequacy of the efforts expended and the results obtained.

Factor 3, Guidelines

Guidelines included training exercises, past experiences, equipment handbooks, BLM and USFS manuals, and Operations Handbooks. Since every fire is unique, the employee must typically select from a number of guides and adapt procedures to meet field conditions.

Factor 4, Complexity

The work requires carrying out a variety of operations following established procedures and precedents making adaptations as necessary. Parachuting into rugged terrain is a complex skill requiring 120 hours of training and practice in aircraft procedures, exiting, parachute steering, landing, timber let-down, and parachute malfunction procedures. Fire assignments include a variety of tasks which may require complex planning and judgment decisions, or complex technical knowledge. Under emergency conditions, the employee analyzes alternative approaches in accomplishing assignments in terms of safety and results.

Factor 5, Scope and Effect

The purpose of the work is to parachute into isolated areas to control and extinguish wildfires. The use of correct and effective tactics and procedures in initial attack or other firefighting operations may mean the difference between a small fire suppression effort, or a large project fires which

adversely affects the property, wildlife and other resource values, and life of individuals.

Factor 6, Personal Contacts

Contacts are primarily with coworkers, fire overhead personnel, pilots, and dispatchers from the Bureau or other federal and state agencies. Some contact with private contractors and the general public may occur.

Factor 7, Purpose of Contacts

The purpose of the contacts is primarily to (1) provide or receive information on work methods and procedures, and (2) brief supervisors and specialists on fire status and methods and procedures being used.

Factor 8, Physical Demands

The work involves extreme physical exertion including carrying 110 pound packs for up to 10 miles through rugged terrain and up to 20 hour shifts working on fire lines. Must meet the established step test and arduous physical requirements for smokejumpers.

Factor 9, Work Environment

The majority of the work is performed out of doors in a wide variety of weather and terrain conditions or in a crowded smokejumper airplane without seats or seat belts. Employee is often assigned to field sites in isolated locations. Employee risks death or serious injury during parachute jumps, low flying cargo dropping, or firefighting. The work requires a variety of safety gear and precautions.