About This Role: Kansas Forest Service, Kansas State University, is hiring a Fuels Specialist to help KFS Fire Program by providing leadership in developing a proactive fuels management program for Kansas. This full-time, term position will provide leadership and assistance to fire departments, public agencies, NGOs and related organizations in developing and implementing fuels management programs in Kansas. The preferred location for this position is Manhattan, KS, but can be negotiated within NE Kansas.

Why Join Us: Empowering fire departments to provide better service to Kansans through training, equipment, and incident, resource and financial assistance.

For 50 years the Kansas Forest Service, Fire Management Program has provided vehicles and equipment to fire departments to enhance their fire suppression capacity. Current programs are the Excess Personal Property Program (FEPP), Fire Fighter Property (FFP) and the Equipment Donation Program (EDP). While some restrictions apply, FFP allows the departments to eventually own the equipment and to utilize it for prescribed and controlled burning as well as other civil emergencies.

Education opportunities are available at no cost for fire prevention education, suppression and prescribe burning. Some classes for land managers and fire fighters are specifically for use within the state, others qualify one to participate in incidents at the Federal level through the Incident Qualification System (Red Card).

Financial assistance for the Kansas Forest Service fire program is principally provided by the State Fire Assistance and Volunteer Fire Assistance Programs of the USDA Forest Service’s State and Private Forestry Division. State fire assistance funds, or SFA, provides funding for KFS fire staff to deliver services to rural fire districts and the citizens of Kansas with services such as training, wildfire preparedness and planning, suppression and response, as well as prescribed fire management. Volunteer fire assistance funds are pass-through funds to cooperating fire districts for ancillary products such as communications equipment, protective gear, hand tools, water pumps, and related items. Coupled to the above is long range planning assistance for Districts desiring a Community Wildfire Protection Plan, Fire Master Plan, or a Hazardous Fuel Assessment.

Incident support and resource management is made possible through funding from the Kansas Legislature. This allows KFS employees to be positioned through Kansas to respond when requested within 2 hours
and enables KFS to pre-position wildland fire taskforces and assist local fire authorities with fire aviation.

Kansas State University offers a comprehensive benefits package that includes health insurance, life insurance, retirement plans, paid time off – vacation, sick, and holidays. To see what benefits are available, please visit: https://www.k-state.edu/hcs/benefits

We Support Diversity and Inclusion:

Kansas State University embraces diversity and inclusion. The university actively seeks individuals who foster a collegial environment and cooperative interactions with coworkers, students, and others. The University is dedicated to promoting the Principles of Community.

What You’ll Need to Succeed:

Minimum Qualifications:
- NWCG Firefighter Type 1
- Incident Commander Type 5
- Bachelor’s degree in natural resource management or related field

Preferred Qualifications:
- NWCG Single Resource Boss
- Incident Commander Type 4
- Master’s degree in natural resource management or related field
- Prescribe burn boss experience

Other Requirements:
- Applicants must be currently authorized to work in the United States at the time of employment
- Ability to engage in firefighting duties, including meeting "arduous" fitness standards as identified by the National Wildfire Coordinating Group.

How to Apply:
Please submit the following documents:
1. Letter of Application
2. Resume
3. Academic transcripts
4. Name, address, and phone numbers of three (3) professional references

Screening of Applications Begins: Screening begins immediately and continues until position is filled. For best consideration, apply by August 5, 2022.

Anticipated Hiring Salary Range: $47,000 - $54,000

Equal Employment Opportunity: Kansas State University is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, age, national origin, disability or status as a protected veteran.

Background Screening Statement: In connection with your application for employment, Kansas State University will procure a Background Screen on you as part of the process of considering your candidacy as an employee.