

FF Special Retirement Coverage

Standard Position Description (SPD)# F003

Certification of CSRS Secondary-Administrative (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 Secondary-Administrative (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.
F003

2. Reason for Submission <input type="checkbox"/> Redescription <input type="checkbox"/> Reestablishment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Other <i>(Show any positions replaced)</i>		3. Service <input type="checkbox"/> Hdqtrs. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Field		4. Employing Office Location		5. Duty Station		6. OPM Certification No.		
7. Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nonexempt				8. Financial Statements Required <input type="checkbox"/> Executive Personnel <input type="checkbox"/> 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"/> 3-Critical Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/> 2-Noncritical 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 Review	Range/Forestry Technician*	GS	455/462	07	mlh	11/21/90
d. First Level Review						
e. Recommended by Supervisor or Initiating Office	Range/Forestry Technician*	GS	455/462	07	mlh	05-25-90

16. Organizational Title of Position (if different from official title)
Aerial Fire Detection Specialist

17. Name of Employee (if vacant, specify)

18. Department, Agency, or Establishment DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR		c. Third Subdivision	
a. First Subdivision Bureau of Land Management		d. Fourth Subdivision	
b. Second Subdivision		e. Fifth Subdivision	

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

Signature of Employee (optional)

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

Typed Name and Title of Official Taking Action
JULIET D. POWELL
Personnel Management Specialist

Information for Employees. The standards, and information on their application, 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.

Signature: Juliet D. Powell Date: 11/21/90

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

24. Remarks
SUBJECT TO DRUG TESTING

*Interchangeable based upon primary vegetation of the unit.

25. Description of Major Duties and Responsibilities (See Attached)

Range/Forestry Technician, GS-455/462-7
Aerial Fire Detection Specialist
Position No. F003

INTRODUCTION

This position is located within a BLM State Office fire suppression organization. The purpose of this position is to serve as a lead in training, detecting, and monitoring wildfires in the State. Other duties may be performed while not assigned detection duties in the close proximity of the standby area.

The area supported requires the extensive use of aircraft and highly trained individuals to locate and monitor limited suppression fires. These employees are also responsible for operating infrared equipment on low level flights over fires for mapping hot spots for the information of the fire boss.

The total time spent personally performing aerial detection duties or other firefighting suppression assignments is estimated to be less than 50% of the time.

Although the employee is a lead for the aerial detection program, normally no more than 1 or 2 specialists are assigned to the function, and they may be assigned on an intermittent basis.

DUTIES

A. Responsible for the supervision and/or work leading of 2-3 employees assigned to the detection activities for the unit. Provides on-the-job training in detection methods and procedures and for infrared mapping, makes assignments, arranges work schedules to meet the unit's detection needs, and provides input into employee's performance ratings. Prepares and modifies plans for detection activities based upon the personnel, equipment, aircraft/pilot capabilities, and fire occurrence at the unit assigned. Completes administrative reports (personnel property, time and attendance, and equipment usage) for assigned personnel and equipment.

B. Serves as a coordinator for contractual pilots and aircraft when they are involved in detection operations at the site. Briefs pilots on detection routes and detection operations procedures as well as the type of flying conditions and routes to follow for infrared mapping. Keeps current records on pilots' hours, flight time, and duty time. Monitors hours of flight time to next scheduled maintenance and for days off. Completes OAS-23s daily and submits information to designated personnel.

C. Determines the detection flights and routes to be followed from fire reports received from the public and from lightning detection and weather conditions. Coordinates detection routes and coverage areas with Zone and Station Dispatch and the Fire Coordination Center. Assimilates detailed information from Alaska Initial Attack Management System including ALDS, RAWS, and the fire weather forecast as background for preparing plans.

D. Performs aerial detection flights for the purpose of locating, sizing up, and mapping fires and for monitoring fires in limited suppression areas. Uses prior firefighting experience and training to locate fires; sizes up situations and relays specialized information to the dispatch office regarding fire size, rate of spread, potential resource values at risk, and proximity to native villages or homesteads; and provides recommendations for personnel, equipment and supplies to be dispatched to the fire or makes a recommendation that no suppression be taken at this time but that the fire be monitored for potential suppression action in case fire conditions change. As assigned, uses firefighting background to provide air monitoring of fires being suppressed for the Fire Boss providing special information on hot spots, perimeter activities, and recommends methods and procedures that may be effective based upon specific observations. May recommend and serve as a supervisor for retardant drops on unmanned fires. Operates infrared equipment for special maps as requested by the fire boss. Documents fire activity as applicable preparing the narrative for DI-1202.

E. During periods of low fire occurrence, may fill fire suppression assignments at other locations.

FACTORS

Factor 1, Knowledge Required by the Position

Knowledge of fire suppression policies, methods, techniques, procedures and specialized guidelines relating to the sizing up and manning of wildfires with personnel, equipment and supplies and for providing air support for fires is required. Prior firefighting experience and training is required.

Ability to provide assistance on novel and unusual circumstances encountered personally or by others in providing aerial detection support for wildfires is required.

Knowledge of Federal Air Regulations, USDI, BLM, OAS and FS technical and/or administrative requirements regarding aviation operations, aircraft usage, pilot hours limitations, aircraft maintenance standards, duty and standby hours, and flight planning procedures is required.

Knowledge of infrared photography equipment and infrared photo interpretation to train others in the filming and interpretation of data.

Ability to supervise others.

Ability to communicate effectively with others.

Must possess a valid state driver's license.

Factor 2, Supervisory Controls

The employee works under a supervisor who makes assignments in terms of what is to be done, personnel and equipment available to accomplish the assignment,

and the approximate time frames involved. The supervisor coordinates the work schedules and activities of detection specialists and pilot/aircraft to meet the unit's needs. Within the general framework provided by the supervisor, the employee plans and carries out assignments determining the best utilization of the personnel and equipment provided. Results are evaluated based upon the effectiveness of the detection specialists in detecting and recommending suppression dispatches, methods, and procedures in the ultimate suppression of fires within the State.

Factor 3, Guidelines

Procedures have been established in the use of aircraft, pilots, and detection specialists in the detection and monitoring of wildfires as well as for infrared photography. However, specific plans must be developed to meet the terrain and other environmental conditions inherent at each site and to recommend aircraft/dispatch services. Although aircraft specifications are available, the employee must be aware of the specific capabilities of particular aircraft and aircraft modifications in relation to the specific often low level duties to be carried out. Employee makes recommendations on the adaptation and/or revision of guidelines for detection activities during fire reviews and in end-of-season reports.

Factor 4, Complexity

The work consists primarily in planning, supervising or carrying out detection and monitoring assignments during often complex fire situations within the State. Detection and monitoring plans are modified/adapted dependent upon the need for resources. The recommendations regarding fire manning and fire suppression methods and procedures require analyzing of a variety of information including fuel types, weather, environment, resource values, and other commitments to suppression actions. The utilization of aircraft and pilots requires a knowledge of FAA regulations, Department and Bureau guidelines, aircraft capabilities, and aircraft contract specifications which must be included in the plans developed.

Factor 5, Scope and Effect

The purpose of the work is to plan, supervise, and carry out aerial detection assignments in support of fire suppression efforts. The work performed by the employee/crew contributes to the effectiveness of the firefighting efforts and in protecting resource values economically. The plans made by this lead detection specialist affect the safety and welfare of employees, aircraft, and pilots.

Factor 6, Personal Contacts

Personal contacts are primarily with other employees in the fire suppression organization, and pilots.

Factor 7. Purpose of Contacts

The purpose of the contacts is to plan and coordinate work efforts, obtain information, give directions, provide information, clarify assignments, and recommend actions.

Factor 8. Physical Demands

This position requires the normal physical abilities to operate automotive vehicles, infrared photography equipment, and fly in light aircraft. The employee must meet the established step test and physical requirements for the position.

Factor 9. Work Environment

Recurring assignments occur in an office, ramp, and airplane environment. Detection and photography assignments are often carried out in low flying aircraft. Some fire line assignments are included. Special safety precautions are required in carrying out fire suppression and flight assignments. The use of safety equipment is often required.