

Careers in the forest service

Approximately 20,000 employees work for the Forest Service. The Forest Service has programs in four major areas. One of them is Management of 190 million acres of National Forest System (NFS) land for economic and social benefits. NFS lands consist of 154 national forests and 19 national grasslands across the country, located primarily in the west. These lands, which belong to the public, include rolling hills, forests, grasslands, deserts, mountains, streams, lakes and seashores. They are managed for a variety of purposes. The public enjoys them for such recreational activities as camping, fishing, hiking, skiing and boating. They provide a home for wildlife ranging from trout to grizzly bears and act as watersheds for much of the nation's supply of

clean water. These lands also provide grazing for cattle, sheep and wildlife. The forest service also cooperates with state foresters, private foresters and woodland owners, wood processors, and private and public agencies to increase the quality of goods and services produced from non-NFS land. The agency conducts research to support management of its national Forest and cooperative forestry programs, as well as to aid in the management of all the nation's forests and rangelands. All of these activities provide opportunities for careers in the forest service.

Among the many jobs in the forest service are preparing and revising plans to grow and harvest timber, managing wildlife habitats and developing recreational facilities.



Youth from City's CETA program at work in Oregon's forest.

CETA/Forest service offers youth employment

by Lanita Duke

Grassroot News, N.W. — The traditional summer jobs for young adults in a static economy are basic office help, fast food and yardwork. The City of Portland's CETA program in collaborating with the Forest Service is breaking the pattern currently with 40 inner-city youth whose duties range from brush disposal to erosion control. Their workplace is the naked forest (Columbia River Gorge, Bull Run Areas) with the clean air, insects, bear and deer.

District Coordinator Kenny Washington explained the premise of the program. "This is our ninth year with the City's CETA program. Unlike any other district we thrive on human-resource programs to accomplish our goals." The goals are erosion control, trail building

and brush disposal.

"We think the program is very cost-effective. With the cutback: we can't accomplish our objectives. Thus, we rely heavily on this program and other human resource programs in the district. If we didn't have these crews out here working for us the work would not get done as quickly with the program. We would have to find someone else to do the work."

District Ranger Gene Zimmerman concurred with this statement. "Compared with the project's cost it is cost effective. We have some of the funds. But in some cases the work would not get done." Zimmerman believes that the young adults on these crews derive less direct benefits. "They also learn the responsibilities of an employee, such as showing up to work on time,

every day, and learning to work with others."

Jeanne Sun, 20, works with the erosion control crew. "My crew goes out and revegetates cut banks where logging was done. We inspect how much damage is done and later we send a crew out to correct the damage done to the trail by men."

Jaime Santos, 19, tells of his response at meeting Mother Nature on her level. "My first few weeks were kinda hard. I had to adjust to the early morning hours. But I'm sure the skills that I've learned will help me later on in life."

Chris Guinn, 17, defines his work experience on his crew as different. "I've worked with little kids before as a CETA employee. But this is more of a work situation. It will help me later on if ever I get a job that requires physical labor." With

the unemployment of black teenagers well over 60 per cent Chris plans to combat the negative percentage with "Effort."

Renee Breedlove admits her work on the brush disposal crew is a non-traditional task for young women. "But I never did enjoy working in an office. Working outdoors suits me. It is a lot of hard work which prepares me for the real world." Ms. Breedlove hopes to major in science and her introduction to nature will complement her interest in science.

Kenny Washington believes a new respect for nature will coincide with the basic employee skills. "We hope that our example will instill some appreciation for the environment. We also show our crews that their work and effort fits into the overall picture of the Forest Service."

So, you want to be a manager

There is more to climbing the corporate ladder into top management than to have graduated from a prestigious college or university. In a late 1980 survey of 782 small, medium and large companies by the *Wall Street Journal* and the Gallup organization, executives comment on the qualities that make good or bad managers. Of the 782 companies polled, 282 were from the nation's largest corporations, 300 were from medium sized, and 200 from small companies.

Positive factors: According to the survey, the three most important personal traits needed to advance into management are integrity, industriousness and the ability to get along with people. In addition, managers should demonstrate personal ambition, commitment to the goals of the company, imagination, good judgment and the ability to motivate others.

The flaws: The most serious fault is managers' "inability to work with people and to understand them." Chief executives also cite "inner" character weakness, lack of aggressiveness, initiative or commitment to their jobs and employees as serious deficiencies. Some other negative factors are failure to assume responsibility, acceptance of the status quo, narrow-mindedness and egotism. Personal insecurity, unwillingness to take risks, inability to make decisions, and the diminishing work ethic are also considered problems of weak managers.

According to the *Wall Street Journal*, the strong consensus among chief executives of companies of all sizes is that "inner" character strength matters most for success and advancement in business. Several pinpointed qualities such as honesty, good judgment, self-reliance and hard work. Six of every 10 executives of large firms mention at least one of the afore-stated qualities. More than one-half the executives of medium-sized companies mentioned at least one, and more than 40 per cent of executives from small organizations did the same.

When asked about weakness in subordinate executives, the most frequent negatives include narrow-mindedness and the inability to work with others. "The lack of concern for people as human beings" is a major shortcoming, one executive said. A board chairman of a large communication company said, "The salient problem is a 'prima donna syndrome,' and a lack of team play." Another saw some senior executive managers as "too egotistical" and wanting "the credit" only for themselves.

There are few differences of perception between large and small company executives. One example is that executives of large companies believe "creativity" is a premium trait necessary for managers in their organizations, while small company executives do not see it as an essential ingredient in their businesses.

Engineering offers ups and downs

The U.S. has 1,500,000 engineers in 12 specialized subfields. Those in the greatest demand currently are petroleum, mechanical, industrial and electrical engineers. Of this total, blacks represent only about 1 per cent, approximately 12-13,000. Unfortunately, engineering has always been a boom-and-bust occupation: aspirants rush into it when demand is high and by the time they graduate, the government funds that finance most engineering research and construction projects have often dried up. The usual and most lucrative solution is to move into management or sale (usually helped by a night school MBA) after about 5 years or so as a technician. This transition can boost earning power tremendously since the median salary for engineers in their prime is about \$33,000.

Counseling offered

Those of you who would like to take advantage of a low-cost job and educational planning service should check into Portland State University's vocational and educational counseling.

The special service is designed for people who are not PSU students, and who want to make the most of their interests and talents—whether or not they're currently working or attending school.

If you are asking questions of yourself such as, "What are my interests, talents and career preferences?" "How can I transfer my abilities to a new career?" "Can I improve my skills in my current job?" "Should I go back to school?"—then this service may be useful to you.

Safeway Grows with Oregon

Sound Economic Growth Depends On . . .

Good Government, Labor Relations And Management

WHAT PART DOES SAFEWAY PLAY IN THE CONTINUED GROWTH OF OREGON?

TAXES

Over \$4,000,000.00 Annual Contribution to Municipal, State and County Governments.

PAYROLL

Over \$68,000,000.00 Annually for employees throughout the state.

PURCHASES

Over \$100,000,000.00 Annually for purchases of Oregon products to distribution throughout the United States and Canada.

Everything you want from a store



SAFEWAY

... and a little bit more.