

**Department of Transformation and Shared Services**

Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders

Secretary Joseph Wood

Director Kay Barnhill

June 14, 2023

The Honorable Breanne Davis, Co-Chairperson
 The Honorable Mark Berry, Co-Chairperson
 Uniform Personnel Classification and
 Compensation Plan Subcommittee
 Arkansas Legislative Council
 State Capitol Building, Room 315
 Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Senator Davis and Representative Berry:

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) submits a request from Department of Parks, Heritage, & Tourism (ADPHT), Division of Parks and Tourism, to obtain four (4) positions from the OPM surrender pool established by Ark. Code Ann. §21-5-225(a). The positions to be surrendered and that have been requested are listed below:

CLASSIFICATIONS REQUESTED

<u>CLASS CODE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>SALARY RANGE</u>	<u>POSITION COUNT</u>
S031C	Skilled Tradesman	GS05	\$32,405 - \$46,987	4

POSITIONS SURRENDERED

<u>POSITION NUMBER</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>CLASS CODE</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>SALARY RANGE</u>
22092119	Maintenance Assistant	S065C	GS01	\$22,880 - \$31,900
22092126	Maintenance Assistant	S065C	GS01	\$22,880 - \$31,900
22092129	Maintenance Assistant	S065C	GS01	\$22,880 - \$31,900
22092144	Maintenance Assistant	S065C	GS01	\$22,880 - \$31,900
22092230	Maintenance Assistant	S065C	GS01	\$22,880 - \$31,900
22143401	Maintenance Assistant	S065C	GS01	\$22,880 - \$31,900

Office of Personnel Management

501 Woodlane Street, Suite 205 * Little Rock, AR 72201 * 501.682.1753

The Honorable Breanne Davis, Co-Chairperson
The Honorable Mark Berry, Co-Chairperson
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JUSTIFICATION

ADPHT wishes to surrender six (6) positions in exchange for four (4) positions due to organizational restructuring within the new administration. The Skilled Tradesman are requested to better manage the upkeep of the Monument Trail System at Devil's Den, Hobbs Conservation Area, Pinnacle Mountain, and Mt. Nebo State Parks. These trails contain technical features that require specialized training to make repairs and alterations, such as the mountain biking areas.

The expected cost is approximately \$199,291, including matching, and no additional general revenue funds are requested. The Office of Personnel Management has reviewed these requests and **recommends** the approval of four (4) positions from the OPM surrender pool.

Your consideration of this request is greatly appreciated.

Kay K. Barnhill

STATE PERSONNEL DIRECTOR

06/01/23
DATE

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Sarah Huckabee Sanders
Governor

Mike Mills
Secretary

June 1, 2023

Kay Barnhill, State Personnel Director
Transformation and Shared Services, Office of Personnel Management
501 Woodlane, Suite 205
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Director Barnhill:

Enclosed are pool position requests being made for our agency to promote operational efficiencies within the Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism (ADPHT). We hope these will be presented at the next scheduled Personnel Committee for approval.

State Parks Division is seeking four (4) additional Skilled Tradesmen for the upkeep of the Monument Trail system at 4 parks. Over the past 5 years, the Arkansas Parks and Recreation Foundation has made donations totaling \$5,027,611 in the construction of 75.28 miles of world class mountain bike trails. The requested Skilled Tradesman will be deployed to Devil's Den, Hobbs Conservation Area, Pinnacle Mountain, and Mt. Nebo State Parks, which are the sites of the newly constructed trails. The Foundation contributions came with the understanding that the trails would be maintained and monitored on a regular basis, while paying special attention to safety concerns.

These trails contain numerous technical features (jumps, berms, and fast downhill tread) that require specialized training (International Mountain Bike Association) to make trail repairs and alterations. It should be noted that ASP has experienced a growth of 332,119 in annual park visitation due to the new trail development. Furthermore, with the lack of appropriately trained staff, there has been a steady number of mountain bike rider complaints and trail closures. Mountain biking within Arkansas has become a strong tourism market and these newly acquired State Park trails, identified and advertised as "Monument Trails", are one of the primary catalysts for this newfound market. Care and maintenance of these trails is directly related to the Natural State Initiative being led by the First Gentleman Bryan Sanders.

The current ADPHT entry salary for GS05 is \$36,000. The entry level salary for the additional four Skilled Tradesman will total \$144,000. To offset this additional salary expense and promote a savings, ADPHT recommends relinquishing the following seven Maintenance Assistants (GS01): 22092119 (Ozark Folk Center), 22092126 (Queen Wilhelmina), 22092129 (Historic Washington), 22092144 (Ozark Folk Center), 22092230 (War Memorial Stadium), and 22143401 (Village Creek). Entry level salaries for these six positions total \$161,700 (\$26,950 each). Therefore, ADPHT would realize a salary saving of \$17,700 while reducing our total positions number by two positions.

Please let me know if you need additional information on any of these requests.

Sincerely,

David Flake
HR Director

Ends.