

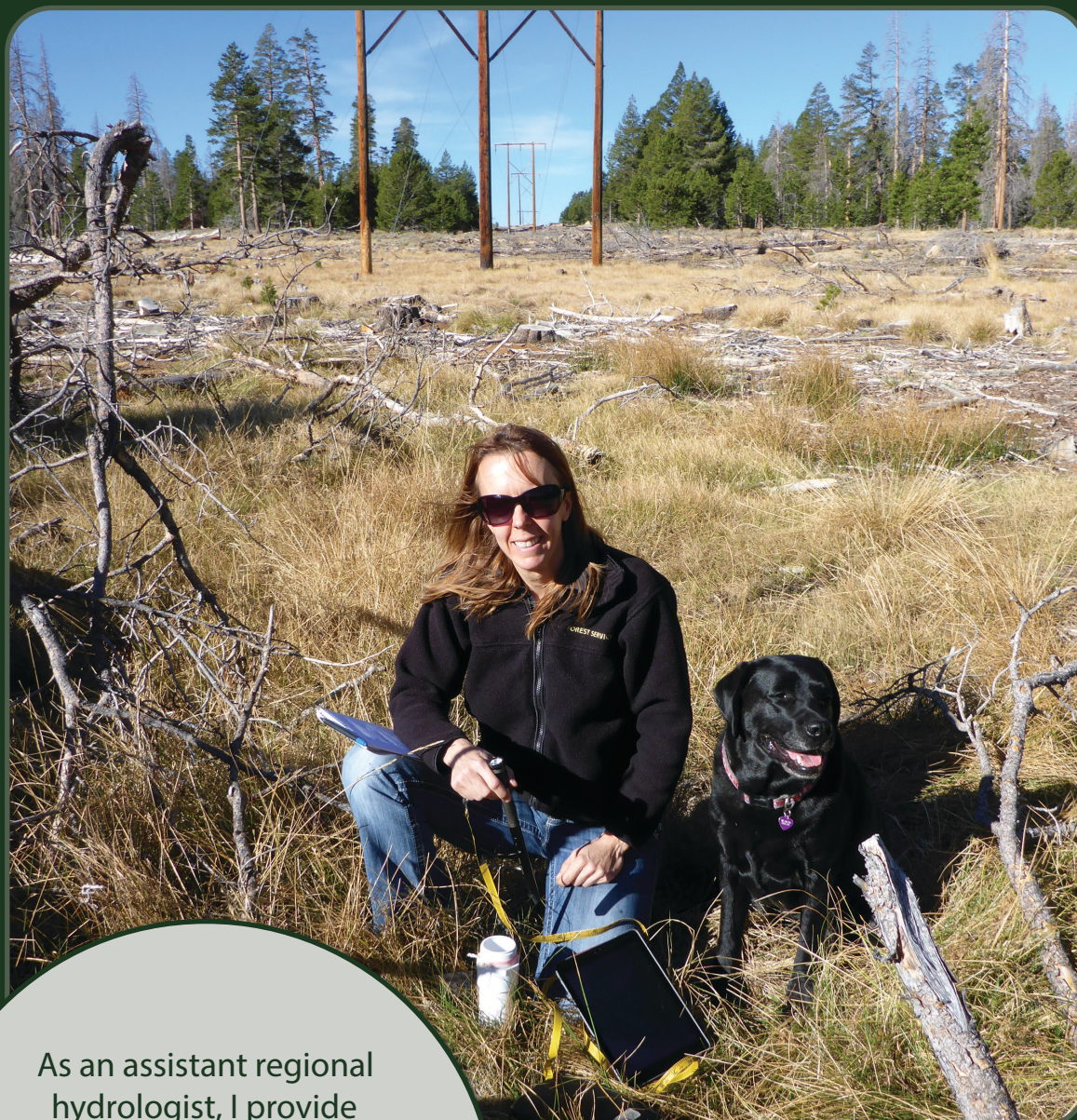


Career Spotlight

Forest Service
Career Pathways



<http://www.naturalinquirer.org>



As an assistant regional hydrologist, I provide functional and technical support to the forests on a multitude of programs such as water quality monitoring, water rights and uses, and watershed condition and management.

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Which of your talents or skills contributes most to your work and why? Curiosity, leadership, good communication, and collaboration with multiple agencies, partners, and cooperators are must-have skills in the public service jobs.

What is a challenge you have encountered in your position? Dealing with a myriad of Federal, State, and local water laws as well as leading the water programs in a socio-politically charged environment is challenging in California. When out in the field, I deal with bears. Luckily, I have a service dog who accompanies me because I am deaf.

What is an example of technology or equipment that you use in your work? I use a flow meter, tape measure, Global Positioning System (GPS), camera, map, rubber boots for wading in stream, and field notebook. I use flow data from stream gauges and track stream channel distribution and alignment from satellite aerial photos.

What has been your most exciting project?

The most exciting work I did was when I was on a fire assignment as a resource advisor. I supervised an equipment operator repairing the stream channel crossing that was damaged from a fire suppression. It was fun to see how much you can accomplish with large equipment.

When did you know this career would be a good fit for you? When I was 16, I spent 2 months with the Juneau Icefield Research Program and fell in love with science. I love being on the water. I was on the swim team growing up, and now I do open water swim. I knew I had to work hard in graduate school to have a career in the outdoors.

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