

Job description - Operational Programme Manager (PB4)

Job summary

The Operational Programme Manager will create and maintain a 5-year rolling production plan ensuring the cost effective delivery of our operational programmes. The impacts of the plan flow across numerous functions including finance, forest management and civil engineering.

The role will also support the line management, development, mentoring and support of colleagues within the land management team.

Key responsibilities & accountabilities

The successful candidates will be required to:

- Undertake a desk review of the volumes of timber required over the next 5 years to fulfil the districts yearly annual production plans and market plans.
- Undertake a desk review of all felling coupes which are scheduled over a rolling 5 year period.
- Design an outline felling plan based on available coupes and the spread of timber products required.
- Ground truth the outline plan, considering stand characteristics in relation to the spread of timber products required.
- Assess the existing access at each coupe, and any infrastructure improvements required.
- Consult the districts foresters on the outline plan, factoring in any comments, concerns or local knowledge.
- Finalise the plan based on each of the preceding points
- Present the plan in a clear and concise format.
- Liaise with the district Civil Engineering team to ensure that their work plan is updated to reflect the needs of the harvesting plan.
- Create operational areas that mirror the finalised plan.
- Ensure that the operational areas are linked to appropriate sale events. Ensure that this reflects the needs of the yearly market plan.
- Liaise with the FM Operations Manager to assist with the preparation of the restock programme

Key Work Areas:

People

- Line manage, support, mentor and develop colleagues within the land management teams especially at the forester level
- Good working relationships will be required across all functions and colleagues within the district, with particular focus on land management, civil engineering, planning and finance.
- Provide the district's operational teams with a clear sense of direction and purpose relative to the needs of the programme.

Planning

- Ensure that annual harvesting programmes account fully for the following:
 - UKWAS and UKFS
 - Forest Plans
 - Scheduled ancient monuments
 - SSSI's and any associated management plans
 - Operational site planning requirements
 - Peatland restoration areas
 - Nature recovery work

Stakeholder Engagement

- Maintain positive dialogue with key stakeholders including customers, CONFOR, Natural England, National Parks

And any other tasks, reasonably requested by your line manager.

Location-specific information

Skills, knowledge & experience

Essential professional and technical experience

- Experienced in managing stakeholders and building positive relationships
- Experience as a team leader
- Experience in planning, managing and supervising forest operations to required operational, environmental, health and safety standards
- Competent IT user with experience of MS Office suite of applications and GIS

Desirable professional and technical experience

- Programme/project management experience

Qualifications

Essential

- Degree or further education in forestry or related land-based discipline or equivalent professional/technical expertise attained through relevant work experience

Desirable

- Associate or full membership of the Institute of Chartered Foresters
- Project Management