

Job description - Tractor driver/Forest craftsperson (PB6b)

Job summary

Be a part of a dynamic team working outdoors, primarily operating a tractor for flailing, mowing, and light timber forwarding tasks, while also engaging in diverse countryside skills like chainsaw work, fencing, planting, and surveying - with full training provided for all necessary skills, making this a versatile and rewarding role in managing and maintaining natural landscapes.

Key responsibilities & accountabilities

- operate the district tractor to carry out a range operation including mowing & flailing of roadsides, post knocking for fences & barriers, and lightweight small scale timber forwarding.
- carry out a diverse range of practical estate maintenance to a high standard meeting health and safety and environmental guidance, including planting trees, felling trees, repairing fences and barriers, maintaining signs, weeding and cleaning.
- work effectively as part of a small team and responding quickly to unexpected work and issues raised by supervisors and foresters.
- deliver essential plants, materials, consumables, etc. to work sites.
- maintain, restore, and create various habitats for ecological benefit and to improve the landscape. The work will include the felling and planting of trees and shrubs and the management of vegetation, which will include fencing, chainsaw use and the application of pesticides.
- monitor and collect data such as general surveying, fence-line and boundary inspections and assessing tree densities on restocked and newly planted sites.
- represent Forestry England well when talking to contractors, customers, visitors, stakeholders and when working with volunteers.

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

Skills, knowledge & experience

Essential professional and technical experience

- experience of practical work in the countryside and a general understanding of forestry, nature conservation and countryside-related issues.
- a familiarity with a variety of hand tools and ability to demonstrate competence in their use.
- full UK driving license.

Desirable professional and technical experience

- all-terrain counterbalance forklift
- experience of operating a tractor, training can be provided for any missing skills.
- experience with a flail, grapple, or post knocker.

Qualifications

Essential

- a GCSE in Maths and English or functional skills equivalent.

Desirable

- qualification in first aid at work willing to be suitably trained.
- NPTC forest machine operator's certificate in base machine (wheeled ridged).
- NPTC forest machine operators certificate in mechanical flails and mulchers.
- NPTC (or Lantra equivalent) in the safe use of pesticides using trailed or vehicle-mounted equipment