

## Job Description - Forest Planner (PB5)

### Job summary

As Forest Planner, you will develop, write, review and consult on, forest planning matters which ensure that Forestry England remain UKWAS compliant. This work can include the preparation of habitat plans and heritage plans and other supporting management documentation helping ensure the forests and woods of the Forest District are sustainably managed to UKFS standards which deliver the Forestry England strategy. Ultimately the role is to help ensure the forests and woods of the nation's forest are sustainably managed and resilient to future threats.

The Forest Planner works closely with colleagues across the Forest District to review and write ten-year Forest Plans that satisfy business needs & the interests of stakeholders, turning high level policy ambitions into delivery across our nation's forests.

The focus of the Forest Planners work will often be focused on a region within the Forest District working across a number of Beats or areas.

You can expect to spend around one third of your time outdoors, often working on your own. You will usually be expected to manage your own time to maximise efficiency and effectiveness.

### Key responsibilities & accountabilities

#### Forest planning and resilience delivery –

- Lead the review and revision of the New Forest Inclosures Forest Plan, ensuring compliance with UKFS, UKWAS, statutory requirements and Forestry England policy.
- Review existing Forest Plan objectives and management prescriptions, evaluate their effectiveness, and develop revised proposals that respond to current evidence, site condition and changing pressures.
- Plan, coordinate and undertake consultation and engagement with internal colleagues, statutory bodies, stakeholder groups and partner organisations, building understanding and consensus around proposed changes.
- Prepare and present clear, well-reasoned planning documents and supporting materials for internal governance, consultation and approval.
- Ensure Forest Plans are realistic, spatially informed and capable of being delivered through operational programmes of work.
- Collect and verify data relating to Forest Plan areas to inform the forest planning process
- Design and prescribe long term forest management which delivers resilient forests in industry best practice Forest Plans ensuring that Forestry England land is managed for people, wildlife and timber
- Communicating, consulting and consensus building with a wide range of Forestry England staff, statutory and non-governmental organisations to ensure proposed plans are in compliance with policies, UK Woodland Assurance Standard and UK Forest Standard
- Monitor and report on progress with delivery

#### Data, mapping and monitoring –

- Interrogate and manage of Geographic information Systems
- Provide support in areas of data analysis to inform business decisions, including timber production and long-term financial models
- Undertake forest and habitat surveys to improve data and maintain monitoring programme

#### Operational support-

- Support the team in areas of survey, data management and mapping to support forest operations to ensure all opportunities and constraints are fully considered
- Provide support to colleagues in areas of specialism such as heritage management, ecological habitats, features or processes as training and skills allow
- Champion high standards of health and safety within the team resource, ensuring compliance with

relevant legislation and guidance

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

## Skills, knowledge & experience

### Essential professional and technical experience

- Good team worker with the ability to work alone and use own initiative as necessary
- Excellent written communication skills
- Excellent verbal communication skills with an ability to bring people together and gain consensus
- A good understanding of Health & Safety in the workplace
- Knowledge and understanding of industry standards and best practice
- Competent IT user with experience in MS Office suite of applications

### Essential professional and technical experience

- Working in forest and land management
- Managing complex issues and options
- Working with Geographical Information Systems (GIS) to manipulate and analyse spatial data

## Qualifications

### Essential

- Degree or Higher National Diploma (HND) or significant equivalent experience in forestry or land management, Geographical Information Systems (GIS), geography or environmental sciences

### Desirable

- Membership of the Institute of Chartered Foresters (ICF) or a commitment to achieve membership

