

Job Description – Head of Forestry & Timber

Job Summary

To lead Forestry England's timber trading and forest management activities, maximising the value of forestry assets. You'll work with the Director of Operations - Forestry and Land Management, to set the strategic direction that will ensure we have a resilient, productive and financially sustainable forestry estate, produce high quality environmental outcomes and increase natural capital value.

Key Responsibilities & Accountabilities

Working with people

- Provide clear leadership, inspiration, support, direction and clarity inside, and outside, the organisation in respect of UKWAS compliant forestry operations, timber production and building forest resilience.
- Lead, support and motivate National Operations colleagues, as well as encouraging collaboration between Districts and National teams across the wider organisation.
- Line manage five direct reports who will assist you; Forest Management Officer, Forestry and Timber Officer, Business Systems Manager, Forest Management Advisor and Lead Operations Support Manager.
- Communicate positively and help to build the reputation of Forestry England as an exemplar in modern sustainable forest management.

Forestry and silviculture

- Championing health and safety leadership, striving to positively change behaviours and foster excellent external relations, in particular with FISA members working in the Nation's Forests.
- Work to ensure all forestry operations are integrated, efficient and cost effective through preparation of rigorous strategic business plans based on high-quality management data, effective procurement and the application of professional forestry and land management knowledge.
- As a leader and team player, inspire colleagues across Forestry England to deliver the long-term changes in forestry practice needed to ensure a resilient and highly productive multipurpose forestry estate that delivers for people, nature and the economy and lead on spreading silvicultural excellence.

Timber production and sales

- Develop and maintain a timber marketing strategy alongside annual production and market plans. Maximise Forestry England market benefits received, prioritising annual income targets but balanced with securing strategic advantages through maintaining competitive markets across the country for all products and species.
- Lead on negotiating all Long-Term Contracts for timber sales.
- Develop and maintain Forestry England's credibility and authority with timber customers and stakeholders. Foster effective and productive business relationships and validate Forestry England's unique market position and business credentials within the UK forestry sector.

Location-Specific Information (optional)

Click or tap here to enter text.

Skills, Knowledge & Experience

Essential Professional and Technical experience

- Experience in shaping strategy and translating it into operational success.
- Experience as a successful leader during organisational change, structural realignment and continuous improvement.
- Experience in a commercial environment with responsibility for significant income generation based on a sales plan and cost-controlled expenditure programmes.
- Professional level experience in forestry, sustainable land management and the delivery of ecosystem services.

Desirable Professional and Technical experience

- Familiarity with the breadth of forestry operations and the technical aspects of timber measurement, yield modelling and operational site planning.

Qualifications

Desirable

- Degree level forestry qualification or Professional level membership of Institute of Chartered Foresters