

## Job description - Operations manager (PB4)

### Job summary

As Operations Manager, you will lead and direct the Sustainable Land Management Beat teams to deliver operational forestry programmes so that harvesting volume targets are met while ensuring that UKWAS and UKFS compliance is maintained. You will work collaboratively with other teams and functions to deliver the wider Forest District Business Plan and District Strategy, championing improvement in our health & safety culture ensuring that forest operations are managed in line with industry best standards. You will promote silvicultural innovation, taking into account nature recovery goals, climate change adaptation and resilience.

### Key responsibilities & accountabilities

#### Leadership Responsibility -

- provide a clear sense of direction and accountability for the Forestry Beat teams: lead and inspire the team to deliver harvesting operations, regeneration programmes, and outdoor recreation and public engagement provision in collaboration with specialist District leads
- take responsibility for the delivery of Sustainable Land Management projects and programmes of work as required
- act as the programme manager for woodland creation in Yorkshire FD, liaising with the National Woodland creation team and supporting the Beat foresters to deliver new planting programmes across the District
- promote a positive and inclusive culture in the beat team and actively foster cross functional collaboration and support
- ensure compliance with organisational guidance and procedures and communicate the importance of working safely, to manage risk across operations for staff, contractors, and customers
- embed a culture of continuous improvement, promoting learning and development opportunities amongst the team as well as a wider network of partners, contractors, and volunteers
- provide leadership across all beats, and deputise for the Head of Land Management, as required, to ensure expertise and continuity in Sustainable Land Management across the District

#### Strategic Responsibility -

- develop and deliver the Sustainable Land Management elements of the Strategy for Yorkshire Forest District
- communicate our strategy and the value of our work to colleagues, customers, and other stakeholders

#### Management of Resources -

- budget responsibility for up to £2M expenditure and up to £5M income from harvesting and other Sustainable Land Management activities
- support the beat teams to enable effective delivery of Sustainable Land Management programmes, projects and business as usual operations by efficient management of resources
- co-ordinate and manage the preparation of the annual business plan, monitor, reforecast and report on budgets and key performance indicators throughout the year
- leadership of the team of beat foresters

#### Stakeholder Engagement, Representation and Communications -

- work collaboratively with colleagues across the district and wider organisation, and maintain professional and productive relationships with stakeholders across all beat and project interests including Woodland Creation

- engage proactively and respond constructively to existing and prospective customers and present the highest standards of professionalism when representing Forestry England in the marketplace

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

#### Location-Specific Information (optional)

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### Skills, knowledge & experience

#### Essential professional and technical experience

- a proven track record in leading teams of staff & managing contractors, customer and other stakeholder relations
- experience of planning and delivering harvesting and tree establishment operations in line with industry standards, as well as successfully integrating a collaborative approach to team working
- experience of budget management, financial monitoring, and cost control
- a skilled problem solver, who is open to innovation
- knowledge of Forest Resilience and the role that low impact silvicultural systems have to play

#### Desirable professional and technical experience

- member of the Institute of Chartered Foresters or an equivalent professional body relevant to rural land management, or a commitment to achieve member status
- a working knowledge of wildlife management, nature recovery, forest engineering, contract negotiation and built heritage management.

### Qualifications

#### Essential

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

