

NATURAL RESOURCES TECHNICIAN (FORESTRY)

KIND OF WORK

Technical, para-professional forest resources management and protection work.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

Under general supervision, an employee in this class assists professional forest ecosystem management specialists in the protection of complex forest ecosystems, and the sustained development and use of forest based natural resources. Employees in this class may be responsible for certain phases of operations, however, they work under the general direction of a supervisor who assigns and inspects work, work progress, and completed tasks. The employee has considerable latitude for use of independent judgment during routine operations and emergency situations. Difficult scientific decisions are the responsibility of the professional forestry specialist. Work is reviewed through field inspections, review of records, reports and work accomplishments.

The NR Technician (Forestry) differs from the NR Technician in that it requires technical knowledge of forest resources data collection and recording techniques. The work differs from the NR Forestry Specialist in that it does not require the breadth of scientific knowledge of forest ecosystem science required of professional forest ecosystem management specialists.

EXAMPLES OF WORK (A position will not include all the work examples given, nor does the list include all that may be assigned.)

Implement Division of Forestry Program tasks so that forest resources are protected, managed and utilized in accordance with Department policy and procedure.

Implement state forestland management tasks so that the quality and quantity of state timber available to markets is maintained and improved; appraise timber resources for sale and recommend harvest prescriptions.

Implement forest development and road tasks so the quality and quantity of state timber resources is enhanced and recommend regeneration plans.

Implement forest fire prevention and fire suppression tasks so that lives, property and forest resources are protected from wildfire.

Identifies common tree species on the ground, and using area photos and GPS technology locates and maps forest types needing harvesting, site preparation, planting, release thinning and other cultural work.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & ABILITIES REQUIRED

Knowledge of:

Forest resource measurement techniques sufficient to collect forest resource information and apply this information to evaluate harvest areas and recommend harvesting regulations.

Wildfire detection and suppression strategies and techniques sufficient to prepare firefighters and equipment for firefighting and to effectively and safely suppress wildfires.

Soils sufficient to identify sustainability and limitations by broad classification.

Plant identification skills sufficient to identify and record tree, shrub, and plant species.

Cartography sufficient to understand topographical, political, survey, and other maps and/or to produce maps for timber sales and forest development.

Land survey techniques sufficient to apply general practices of surveying in field applications.

Capability, suitability, service and operation requirements of a wide variety of equipment sufficient to safely and effectively make use of the equipment in the control of wildfires, forest development projects, and maintaining buildings, grounds, and property.

Forest resources measurement and scaling techniques sufficient to obtain and record detailed and accurate data.

Safety hazards and high fire hazard areas prevalent in forestry operations sufficient to cope with them or avoid them, prevent accidents, mitigate hazards, and instruct others in safe work habits.

Ability to:

Measure forest resources for sale and recommend management prescriptions sufficient to sell state forest resources in a sustainable manner.

Use and interpret aerial photography and GIS software sufficient to accurately use photos for mapping, species identification and locating corners and property lines.

Work independently in remote locations sufficient to accomplish tasks without immediate supervision.

Operate common types of mechanical and vehicular equipment and to perform routine servicing.

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Class Specification

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Understand and carry out oral and written directions.

Provide leadwork for seasonal, part-time and intermittent workers.

Keep records and write reports.

Complete physically demanding tasks.

Est: 6/80
Rev.: 9/08
Ckd:

T.C.: 4/12/1988
Former Title(s): Natural Resources Technician
(Forestry Technician)