

FORESTER II

Work in this class involves providing administrative assistance to a Forestry Supervisor I and technical assistance to other district staff members in a specialty area such as forest management or fire control. Employees have some direct supervision of permanent and temporary district staff. Administrative work includes the day-to-day management of district personnel, budget, and records. Other employees in this class provide a variety of technical assistance to field units and other staff members as needed. Other related duties may be assigned as necessary. Employees function independently on a day-to-day basis and report to a higher level technical supervisor.

I. DIFFICULTY OF WORK:

Variety and Scope - Employees have a variety of recurring and non-recurring forestry assignments at the district level in a specialty area such as forest management or fire control and direct supervision of a portion of the district staff; or employees provide technical assistance in a specified portion of the state.

Intricacy - Assignments can be repetitive; however, each assignment may have different variables relating to the project which must be considered before work can be completed.

Subject Matter Complexity - Employees must have a general understanding of forestry practices and programs and a basic understanding of their specialized programmatic areas and the administrative procedures under which the programs operate.

Guidelines - Procedures, precedents, and model management plans are available, but interpretation may be necessary. Employees also use the N. C. Forest Service Manual, N. C. Forester's Field Handbook, U. S. Forest Service Forester's Handbook, and various herbicide and pesticide guides.

II. RESPONSIBILITY:

Nature of Instructions - Employees receive general instructions. If complex problems or situations identified as having potential negative impact on the agency arise, employees would seek advice from a higher level Forester.

Nature of Review - Work is carried out independently and may be reviewed upon completion or, in some cases, released without higher level review. Periodically, higher level personnel will spot-check recently completed work or work in progress.

Scope of Decisions - In the case of forest management and pest control, decisions may have direct impact on the environment, timber production, and private landowners. In the case of fire control, decisions may have direct impact upon fellow workers and the general public.

Consequence of Decisions - Errors in decisions may result in damage or loss of timber, real property, personal property, water and air quality, and injury or loss of life.

III. INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Scope of Contacts - Primary contacts are with private landowners and other Forestry employees, usually at the district or county level. Additionally, there may be significant contacts with reforestation contractors.

Nature and Purpose - The primary purposes of contacts are to explain or interpret forest management plans or some other Forestry project, to gather and discuss information, and to resolve problems.

IV. OTHER WORK DEMANDS:

Work Conditions - During fire suppression activities, working conditions are highly disagreeable because of heat, smoke, long working hours and, at times, transitory, substitute housing accommodations. During other fieldwork activities, employees work in high brush and wooded terrain.

Hazards - Work requires periodic exposure to potentially dangerous forest fires, automobile travel to and from work sites, and other normal wooded terrain hazards such as insects and poisonous snakes.

V. RECRUITMENT STANDARDS:

Knowledges, Skills, and Abilities - Working knowledge of the principles and practices of technical forestry as they apply to forest protection and management. Working knowledge of fire prevention and fire-fighting methods as applied to forests. Ability to develop and maintain good forest practices. Ability to gather and present technical information effectively in oral and written form. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with private landowners, contractors, and other employees. Physical stamina to work outdoors for long periods of time under adverse conditions.

Minimum Education and Experience - Graduation from a Society of American Foresters (SAF) accredited four-year college or university with a major in Forestry and two years of related professional Forestry experience; or an equivalent combination of education and experience as determined by the NC Board of Registered Foresters.

Necessary Special Requirement - Must obtain registration as a Forester from the NC Board of Registered Foresters within one year of employment.