

FORESTER III

Work in this class involves providing administrative support to a Forestry Supervisor III and technical guidance and review to other regional and district staff members in a specialty area such as forest management or forestation. Other employees in this class are responsible for an administrative program or research and development for a specific part of a program area such as forest management, fire control, information and education, or capital improvements. Other related duties may be assigned as necessary. Employees function independently on a day-to-day basis and are supervised by a Forestry Supervisor.

I. DIFFICULTY OF WORK:

Variety and Scope - Employees have a variety of recurring and non-recurring forestry assignments at the regional level in a specialty area such as forest management or forestation. Other employees provide research and development for a specific unit or section of the central office.

Intricacy - Major work assignments usually involve a specialized program. Employees perform at an advanced technical level and provide program support and review for other Foresters and Technicians.

Subject Matter Complexity - Employees must have a complete understanding of their specialized program area and a general knowledge and understanding of other Division programs. Specific program understanding will vary according to the specialization such as forest management or fire control.

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 concerning goals and objectives. Day-to-day work and short-term projects are planned and completed independently. Employees may request technical support from the central office personnel in the specialized programmatic area if additional consultation is necessary.

Nature of Review - Work is carried out independently and may be reviewed upon completion or, in some cases, released without higher level review. Periodically, central office 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 other Forestry employees, usually at the district or county level. Additionally, there may be significant contacts with other agencies dealing in a related specialized area.

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

IV. OTHER WORK DEMANDS:

Work Conditions - Some work is in the normal office setting. 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, employee 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 - Considerable knowledge of the principles and practices of technical forestry as they apply to forest protection and management. Considerable knowledge of fire prevention and fire-fighting methods as applied to forests. Considerable knowledge of state and federal guidelines and programs relating to forest management and other forest programs. Ability to develop and maintain good forest practices. Ability to gather and present technical information effectively in oral and written form. Ability to participate in the planning and maintaining of improved forestry practices in the state. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with fellow employees and other agencies and the general public. 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 three 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.