

## FORESTER IV

Work in this class involves research and development in Forest Resources programs having statewide impact. Public contact can be very broad including foreign interests, industry, local government, in addition to both staff and line Forest Resources employees. Employees are operationally independent and receive no higher level technical supervision in their program area. Other related duties may be assigned as necessary. Employees report to a Forestry Supervisor IV, who reviews the work through periodic conferences and reports.

I. DIFFICULTY OF WORK:

Variety and Scope - Employees are responsible for specialized statewide Forest Resources program and complete a broad range of activities related to that program. Representative programs characteristically offer a direct service to the public, industry, or other governmental agencies.

Intricacy - Assignments usually require considerable research, analysis, and planning to provide the guidelines and objectives of the program and the method of implementation.

Subject Matter Complexity - Employees must have a thorough understanding of their specialized program area and a general knowledge and understanding of other Division programs. Specific program understanding varies according to the specialization such as Urban Forestry or Forest Product Utilization.

Guidelines - Very general administrative policies and guidelines are provided. Considerable interpretation is usually required to resolve problems and implement the program.

II. RESPONSIBILITY:

Nature of Instructions - Employees have considerable independence in developing and carrying out program assignments after long-range goals and objectives have been jointly planned with a Forestry Supervisor IV.

Nature of Review - Employees receive very limited technical review and minimal administrative review upon completion of program work.

Scope of Decisions - In the case of fire control, decisions may have direct impact upon fellow workers and the general public. In the case of other Forest Resources programs, decisions have direct impact on the environment, industry, timber production, or private landowners.

Consequence of Decisions - Errors in decisions may result in damage or loss of timber, real property, personal property, injury or loss of life, or loss of a potential forestry related industry.

III. INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Scope of Contacts - Primary contacts are with both other Forestry employees, and local, state and federal agencies involved in the specialized program. Contacts with the public vary with the specific group having an interest in the specialized program.

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

IV. OTHER WORK DEMANDS:

Work Conditions - Most work is completed in a 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 field 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 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 four 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.