

TITLE: Forest Technologist

CLASSIFICATION: STO R18

MINISTRY: Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

WORK UNIT: BC Timber Sales

SUPERVISOR TITLE: Woodlands Supervisor

SUPERVISOR POSITION #: Various

PROGRAM

As part of the Natural Resource Sector, BC Timber Sales (BCTS) is an effective timber marketer generating wealth through sustainable resource management. BCTS provides credible representative price and cost benchmark data for the Market Pricing System (MPS) through auctions of Crown timber.

JOB OVERVIEW

The Forest Technologist acts with specialized knowledge and training regarding the practice of professional forestry when performing a wide variety of functions including: planning, engineering, timber sales and silviculture activities.

ACCOUNTABILITIES

- Provide input to support the development of annual Business Plans by estimating budget and resource needs for projects/contracts.
- Integrate the requirements of BCTS' Safety Program into Timber Sale Licensees', Permitees', contractors' and staff activities.
- Monitor, report, and make recommendations for maintenance and improvement of BCTS' sustainable forestry and environmental management programs.
- Evaluate and manage social, financial and environmental risk in contract planning and administration.
- Plan, negotiate, prepare and manage contracts pertaining to BCTS across functional areas; ensure legislative and contractual obligations, and tenure and access considerations are met.
- As designated by the Timber Sales Manager; act as the BCTS contact for Licensee's with regards to Timber Sale License administration.
- Conduct Licensee, Permittee, and contractor pre-work conferences and approve commencement of operations.
- Act as qualified receiver of contract deliverables which entails; monitoring, documentation, initiating corrective actions, recommending punitive financial actions, validating expenditures; performing post-contract evaluations ensuring legal obligations are met, and substantiating the release of securities.
- Assess Licensee, Permittee and contractor performance and take corrective actions including: initiating license suspensions, reporting potential legislative non-compliances, and initiating and completing investigations.

- Assess Timber Sale Licenses to ensure all of the licensee's tenure obligations have been met. Recommend security deposit dispositions (release or forfeiture) relative to licensee's completion of obligations.
- Use professional expertise to collect, analyse and evaluate data (both own and other professional's), to make sound and safe financial and environmental decisions, recommendations and prescriptions for appropriate harvest plans, road designs, construction, maintenance and deactivation, log dump locations, and protection of identified resource values.
- Ensure data integrity, recognizing the significant social, financial and environmental impact of data-based decisions (e.g. road amortization periods, timber pricing, and silviculture liabilities).
- Estimate and compile resource development needs, design methods to collect required data, prepare resource inventory information and field area management options, prepare cost/benefit analyses, and prepare concise rationales, recommendations and reports enabling effective decisions regarding a variety of complex operational and strategic level forest development plans.
- Prepare timber valuations and determine viability of logging operations using cost/benefit analyses, enabling decisions that ensure optimum economic return to government from timber sales.
- Conduct a complex variety of technical forestry activities such as: mensuration, harvest and access layout, hazard and risk identification, site preparation and forest regeneration activities, and forest health management while ensuring legislative requirements are achieved.
- Monitor, inspect and report on road construction, drainage structure installation, maintenance and deactivation to confirm conformance and compliance with legislative requirements under tenure or contractual obligations. Prepare deactivation prescriptions.
- Collect, prepare, review and submit data for stumpage appraisals.
- Recommend appropriate contractual clauses in various tenure documents and works contracts with due consideration of legal, environmental and operational constraints and values.
- Prepare and present BCTS evidence under the *Forest Act* to statutory decision makers and act as witness during statutory and/or judicial decision proceedings.
- Determine the volume remaining on a TSL required to calculate stumpage payments and TSL extension fee.
- Provide evidence and assist in the preparation of recommendations in Decision Notes for Assistant Deputy Minister consideration regarding licensee requests for Extension Fee Waivers, Deposit Forfeiture Relief and Waste Billing relief.
- Provide professional recommendations regarding: costs, prescriptions and activities to support sound reforestation decisions including tree seed and seedling stock planning.
- Provide contractor quality assurance and report all silviculture activities results ensuring BCTS' legislative obligations are achieved.
- Analyse survey data including forest health issues, assess potential impacts and make recommendations to ensure compliance with legislative, Forest Stewardship Plan and Site Plan requirements. Verify and complete statutory declarations.
- May be required to obtain or maintain Forest Pesticide Applicators License and monitor pesticide use.
- Represent the BCTS Business Area and participate in public meetings, local and provincial committees and working groups as required.
- Assist with the preparation of local and provincial standard operating procedures, and implement procedures as required.
- Assist in training of staff, and coordinate and review work of seasonal or temporary staff.

JOB REQUIREMENTS

- Graduation with a diploma or a degree in resource or forestry management.
- Registered with the Association of British Columbia Forest Professionals (ABCFP) as a Registered Forest Technologist (RFT) or Registered Professional Forester (RPF) **AND** a minimum of two years of experience in operational field forestry activities,
OR
- Enrolled, or eligible for immediate enrollment, with the Association of British Columbia Forest Professionals (ABCFP) as a forest professional in training (TFT, ASTFT, FIT, ASFIT), for the purpose of obtaining an RFT or RPF designation **AND** a minimum of four years of experience in operational field forestry activities.

Operational field forestry activities include one or more of the following:

- timber harvesting cut-block development
 - forest road engineering
 - silviculture
 - harvest operations
 - compliance and enforcement
- Must possess at minimum a valid Class 5 B.C. Driver's License that does not limit or restrict the ability to conduct the duties of the job.

PROVISOS

- Must be willing and able to withstand the rigors of fieldwork.
- Must be willing to work in adverse weather conditions.
- Must be willing and able to travel to meet job requirements.
- Must be willing and able to travel in fixed and/or rotary winged aircraft and/or watercraft.
- Must be able to maintain membership with the Association of British Columbia Forest Professionals (ABCFP) as a member in good standing.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

- Basic knowledge of provincial forest tenure and resource management legislation.
- Basic knowledge of the structures and mandates of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and BC Timber Sales.
- Basic knowledge of cost and benefit analyses.
- Basic knowledge of financial management and control.
- Basic knowledge of safety procedures and practices as they relate to forestry activities.
- Ability to communicate clearly and effectively both verbally and in writing.
- Ability to use computer applications (such as spreadsheets, databases, electronic mail, and word processing) to enter and retrieve data and create and edit a variety of effective correspondence and reports.
- Ability to analyse field data.

KEY BEHAVIOURAL COMPETENCIES

- **Results Orientation (2)** is a concern for surpassing a standard of excellence. The standard may be one's own past performance (striving for improvement); an objective measure (achievement orientation); challenging goals that one has set; or even improving or surpassing what has already been done (continuous improvement). Thus, a unique accomplishment also indicates a Results Orientation.
- **Service Orientation (3)** implies a desire to identify and serve customers/clients, who may include the public, co-workers, other branches/divisions, other ministries/agencies, other government organizations, and non-government organizations. It means focusing one's efforts on discovering and meeting the needs of the customer/client.
- **Teamwork and Co-operation (2)** is the ability to work co-operatively within diverse teams, work groups and across the organization to achieve group and organizational goals. It includes the desire and ability to understand and respond effectively to other people from diverse backgrounds with diverse views.
- **Initiative (2)** involves identifying a problem, obstacle or opportunity and taking appropriate action to address current or future problems or opportunities. As such, initiative can be seen in the context of proactively doing things and not simply thinking about future actions. Formal strategic planning is not included in this competency.
- **Problem Solving/Judgment (3)** is the ability to analyze problems systematically, organize information, identify key factors, identify underlying causes and generate solutions.
- **Business Acumen (2)** is the ability to understand the business implications of decisions and the ability to strive to improve organizational performance. It requires an awareness of business issues, processes and outcomes as they impact the client's and the organization's business needs.
- **Improving Operations (2)** is the ability and motivation to apply one's knowledge and past experience for improving upon current modes of operation within the Ministry. This behaviour ranges from adapting widely used approaches to developing entirely new value-added solutions.