

**TITLE: PLANNING FORESTER**

**CLASSIFICATION: LSO 2**

**JOB OVERVIEW**

*The Planning Forester analyzes and produces a wide range of data to develop integrated resource and operational plans, primarily the Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) and operating plans. The position develops and implements results and strategies to meet the FSP and ensures planning components meet legislative, operating, and certification requirements. The position provides functional direction to field team professionals and technicians with expertise in timber development, harvesting, engineering and silviculture. The position builds and maintains relationships with representatives from First Nations, resource stakeholders, Ministry and industry contacts.*

**ACCOUNTABILITIES**

**Forest Stewardship Planning**

- Identifies and gathers timber, recreation, wilderness, range, heritage and cultural values, scenic areas, wildlife, terrain stability, botanical forest products and fisheries/riparian information/data from a variety of data bases and other sources.
- Prepares, and manages-contracts to support the FSP, (archeological, terrain, habitat, and visual impact assessments)
- Leads the development of BA FSP(s) and signs and seals the FSP and associated amendments over time
- Verifies that proposed FSP results and strategies meet all forest management requirements of the Ministry, including compliance with the various acts, regulations, policies, and procedures
- Liaises with Ministry and industry contacts to keep informed of, and provide input to, development of resource management objectives and planning initiatives that potentially impact the FSP
- Helps develop and execute effectiveness monitoring systems for the FSP

**Operational Planning:**

- Works with other professionals / disciplines to determine the location of resources such as riparian areas, fish and wildlife habitat, scenic areas and domestic water supplies, the impact of forest development and mitigation strategies at both the site level and within the forest development unit area generally
- Proposes block boundaries and roads based on field reconnaissance data
- Prepares, and manages-contracts to support operational plans - and sales plans (e.g. total resource and access plans; timber reconnaissance; archeological, terrain, habitat, and visual impact assessments)
- Participates in ongoing operational planning such as total resource plans or SP review to ensure consistency with legal requirements, higher level plans and the FSP
- Ensures operational plans contain results and strategies that are; resource appropriate, measurable, quantifiable and achievable, and align with BCTS Mandate and SFM Certification requirements.
- Submits various plans and progress reports to the Planning Officer / Timber Sales Manager to meet legislative obligations or internal performance, planning and reporting requirements
- Leads or assists in the development, implementation and monitoring of the sustainable forest management plan to maintain third party certifications (EMS, SFI, FSC, and / or CSA) held by the BA or BCTS

- Applies forest modeling programs and / or other tools to determine if forest management activities will deliver the BA apportionment over the 5 year business cycle
- Participates in the Timber Supply Review (TSR) process for BA Timber Supply Areas.
- Prepares and analyzes data for input into higher level plans.

#### **First Nation and Stakeholder Information Sharing and Consultation**

- Maintains ongoing communication and negotiations with local stakeholders and the general public with regard to BCTS operational plans.
- Ensures consultation within the BA is within defined legal obligations.
- Completes, and validates Strength of Claim assessments for potential Aboriginal Rights and Title.
- Coordinates and acts as a TSO representative during public review and comment, First Nations consultation and referral processes.
- Facilitates and/or participates in consultation engagement to request information about interests and/or concerns.
- Recommends accommodation options to reconcile provincial objectives with First Nations' interests and informs First Nations of proposed decisions.
- Supports consultation processes by drafting and reviewing consultation letters, and preparing consultation summaries.
- Documents consultation processes in a legally defensible manner using provincial consultation databases to demonstrate that First Nations engagement, consultation and/or accommodation occurred.
- Advises BCTS operational staff on consultation requirements.

#### **Other:**

- Enters, updates and maintains FSP, license, and block specific data in BCTS and FLNRO systems as required.
- Maintains records and data as required for BCTS certification schemes and for purposes of demonstrating due diligence.
- Responds to requests for additional information or analysis of specific problems and prepares follow up letters.
- Supports the Timber Sales Manager by conducting risk based analyses and providing strategic advice on complex and potentially controversial operational issues as they relate to program objectives and assets.
- Prepares Information Notes, Early Warning Notes, Briefing Notes and MRL's, working in close association with assigned government communications personnel to develop media responses.
- Supports Planning Officer and others during audits or reviews that fall within the scope of this position's responsibility.
- Interprets acts and regulations and ensures compliance with ministry and government policies, procedures and standards and provides direction to field staff and management on these matters.
- Signs and seals various documents requiring the signature of a Professional Forester.

## **JOB REQUIREMENTS**

- A Registered Professional Forester (RPF), or be eligible for registration as an RPF with the Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABC FP) and two years (gained within the last five years) of experience in operational forestry such as forest tenures, cut-block and road development, engineering, silviculture, harvest operations or 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.

## **PREFERENCE STATEMENT**

- Directly related planning and integrated resource management experience

## **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

- Basic knowledge of the structures and mandates of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and BC Timber Sales
- Basic knowledge of current First Nations case law and provincial First Nations negotiations and reconciliation.
- Knowledge of related legislation and regulations and the ability to interpret and apply legislation, policy and procedures.
- Knowledge of integrated resource management and planning processes.
- Knowledge of cost and benefit analysis and financial management and control.
- Knowledge of contract and project administration.
- Knowledge of safety procedures and practices as they relate to forestry activities.
- Knowledge in one or more of the following forestry fields: planning, timber development, appraisals, or silviculture.
- Knowledge of timber supply review, timber supply analysis modeling, yield prediction, harvest flow and forecasting.
- Ability to plan, organize, administer and monitor multiple projects and contracts simultaneously.
- Ability to identify, analyze and develop innovative solutions for operational and technical problems
- Ability to develop, monitor and evaluate results of operational processes
- Ability to conduct and analyse data for technical reviews and inspections.
- Ability to assess situations quickly and take appropriate and safe action.
- Ability to observe, report and maintain accurate records
- Ability to communicate clearly and effectively both verbally, in writing (respond to public inquiries, drafting professional reports and briefing materials), and or as a public presentation.

- Ability to use computer applications (such as GIS software, spreadsheets, databases, electronic mail, and word processing) to enter and retrieve data and create and edit a variety of effective correspondence and reports.

### **BEHAVIOURAL COMPETENCIES**

- Building Partnerships with Stakeholders is the ability to build long-term or on-going relationships with stakeholders (e.g. someone who shares an interest in what you are doing). This type of relationship is often quite deliberate and is typically focused on the way the relationship is conducted. Implicit in this competency is demonstrating a respect for and stating positive expectations of the stakeholder. (L2)
- Information Seeking is driven by a desire to know more about things, people or issues. It implies going beyond the questions that are routine or required in the job. It may include "digging" or pressing for exact information; resolution of discrepancies by asking a series of questions; or less-focused environmental "scanning" for potential opportunities or miscellaneous information that may be of future use. (L3)
- Planning, Organizing and Coordinating involves proactively planning, establishing priorities and allocating resources. It is expressed by developing and implementing increasingly complex plans. It also involves monitoring and adjusting work to accomplish goals and deliver to the organization's mandate. (L3)
- Problem Solving/Judgment is the ability to analyze problems systematically, organize information, identify key factors, identify underlying causes and generate solutions. (L3)
- Results Orientation 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. (L3)
- Service Orientation 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. (L3)
- Teamwork and Co-operation 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. (L3)