

**CLASS TITLE:****FOREST TECHNICIAN I**

Class Code: 02217200

Pay Grade: 13A

EO Code: H

**CLASS DEFINITION:**

**GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES:** To perform forestry management and maintenance activities for wildlife habitat, public recreation, fire prevention, pre-suppression, and suppression duties in the forest areas of the state; and to do related work as required.

**SUPERVISION RECEIVED:** Receives general instructions from a superior concerning work assignments with latitude for the exercise of initiative and technical judgement; work is reviewed in process and upon completion for conformance to the application of accepted techniques, best management practices and law.

**SUPERVISION EXERCISED:** Usually none; as needed, may provide guidance to seasonal employees and interns.

**ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED:**

To perform forestry management and maintenance activities for wildlife habitat, public recreation, fire prevention, pre-suppression, and suppression duties in the forest areas of the state.

To maintain roads and trails of the state forests; to clear debris and brush on state-owned management areas; to perform care and maintenance activities at all buildings, sanitary facilities, drinking water supplies, forest roads, parking areas, trails, remote camping, hiking and fishing access sites.

To perform forest harvesting, chainsaw and sawmill operations in concert with natural resource management for public safety, hazard mitigation, storm response and public recreation and wildlife habitats.

As needed, to support programs of wild-fire prevention education, pre-suppression and suppression.

To mitigate fire hazards in state management areas by cutting brush, clearing access trails and participating in controlled burns.

To assist in the maintenance of forest fire fighting and forestry equipment, including to perform testing, washing and packing functions during times of high fire danger.

To receive specialized training through the Northeast Forest Fire Protection Compact Commission, and to participate in fighting wild land fires in other states during declared emergencies involving the cooperating states.

As needed, to take forest fire weather readings utilizing specialized equipment such as wet and dry bulb thermometers, psychrometers, precipitation gauges and wind gauges.

To participate in continuous in-service training programs including, but not limited to, chainsaw safety, wildfire suppression methods, pump maintenance and Advanced First Aid and Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation Courses on a continuing basis to remain current in the techniques of emergency first aid and rescue.

To participate in the construction, repair and/or maintenance of buildings, including fire towers, and do simple maintenance relating to the same; to construct, inspect and repair specialized firefighting equipment.

To maintain current knowledge and training on state forestry and forest fire laws as well as fish and game laws and regulations governing the use of state management areas.

To locate, clear and identify forest boundaries in state management areas using maps and surveying instruments.

To properly and safely apply herbicide to the side of access roads in management areas to reduce fire hazards.

To operate chain saws, brush cutters, and other mechanical equipment to keep fire access roads open on both a routine and emergency basis.

As needed, to assist foresters in carrying out the provisions of forest management plans on state forests and any forestry program within the Division that may require assistance or support of a field staff.

To do related work as required.

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT:**

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND CAPACITIES:** A working knowledge of and skills in forest fire suppression methods and equipment; a familiarity with general methods and equipment used in forest conservation programs; understanding of seasonal facility and road maintenance; the ability to meet with, effectively communicate with, and establish effective working relationships with the general public, conservation partners and cooperating firefighting organizations; the ability to engage in continuous, active field work under extreme weather conditions requiring physical stamina; the ability to assume responsibility and leadership on a fire line; and related capacities and abilities.

**EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:**

Education: Such as may have been gained through: graduation from a senior high school; and Experience: Such as may have been gained through: employment involving the performance of general labor tasks in forestry, woodland or lumbering activities, including hands-on experience in the suppression of forest fires as a member of a department or volunteer company.

Or, a combination of education and experience that shall be substantially equivalent to the above education and experience.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:** At the time of appointment (or as specified) and continually thereafter:

1. Must be physically qualified to perform assigned duties as evidence by a physician's certificate.
2. Must possess and maintain a valid motor vehicle operator's license.
3. Within six (6) months of appointment, must possess and maintain a Restricted Hoisting License issued by the Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training.

Editorial Review: 3/15/03

Class Revised: September 3, 2017

Class Revised: April 1, 2018