

CLASS TITLE:

SENIOR FORESTER

Class Code: 02746300
Pay Grade: 23A
EO: C

CLASS DEFINITION:

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES: To perform advanced professional forestry work in a variety of forest management, forest fire control and urban forestry programs; to evaluate the effectiveness of the programs and make necessary changes; to train departmental personnel in forestry, forest fire control and urban forestry operations; to work closely with the public, soliciting their inputs and cooperation in carrying out programs; and to do related work as required.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED: Works under the general supervision of a superior from whom are received general directions which afford the opportunity for considerable initiative and independent professional judgement; work is reviewed through written and oral reports and conferences for conformance to law, policies, rules and regulations.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED: Plans, assigns, supervises and reviews the work of professional, sub-professional, laborers and others engaged in the program.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED:

On an assigned district and/or a statewide basis to be responsible for a program of forest management and timber stand improvement, forest road and trail construction and maintenance, harvesting and lumbering operations.

To provide assistance to organizations and individuals on public and private woodlands; and assistance to woods operators and primary processors to improve markets and operating efficiency.

To be responsible for a program of forest fire prevention, pre-suppression and suppression; including and training of personnel in above areas and assistance in drafting and execution of forest fire control plans for the assigned area.

To be responsible for a program of urban and community forestry, involving planning, programming, budgeting and implementing urban and community activities statewide; includes identification of problems and needs relating to the establishment, maintenance and protection of trees and shrubs in urban and community areas; and work with state and local officials; coordinate activities with other divisions and agencies; provide budget input; and serve in a public relations capacity for the program.

To be responsible for scheduling the maintenance of heavy motor equipment such as fire trucks, dump trucks, bulldozers, front and loaders, road graders and light motor equipment.

To insure the occupational safety regulations are adhered to and that proper safety equipment is utilized by divisional employees.

To prepare correspondence and technical reports as required.

To prepare bid specifications for equipment when required.

To conduct in-service training programs for vision personnel.

To assist local fire departments in training their personnel in wildfire control operations.

To represent the division in district and/or statewide contact with private and public agencies and organizations.

To make periodic evaluations of work performance of subordinates.

To give testimony in court as an expert witness for the state.

To provide technical advice to landowners, loggers and sawmill operators with respect to harvesting and marketing of forest products.

To supervise all timber stand improvement, harvesting and reforestation operations on state owned forestland.

To cruise timber areas for harvesting or for data gathering for inputs to forest management plans.

To recognize the symptoms of tree diseases and insect and animal damage and recommend proper controls.

To supervise the use of pesticides on state owned forestland.

To conduct wildfire prevention, presuppression and suppression operations in an assigned district.

To assist cities and towns and other organizations in planning programming, budgeting and implementing urban and community forestry programs.

To review and compile data for Environmental Impact Statements as they relate to forest resources.

As required, to represent the department at scientific conferences and public meetings, and to assist in a program of public information and education, as it concerns state forestry programs.

To do related work as required.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT:

KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND CAPACITIES: A working knowledge of forest management, urban forestry, and all aspects of wildfire control; a working knowledge of all applicable pesticide laws and related regulations; the ability to use a civil engineer's transit and levels to determine elevations and boundaries; a considerable knowledge of the laws relating to forest fires, forestry, and the protection of trees and shrubs generally; the ability to read simple construction blueprints; the ability to maintain technical records and prepare reports; the ability to prepare specifications for purchase of equipment and materials; the ability to establish good working relationships with associates and the general public; the ability to plan, organize, supervise and review the work of professionals and others assigned; the ability to prepare and submit comprehensive forest management, urban forestry and fire control plans and oversee their proper implementation; the ability to engage in active field work requiring physical stamina; and capacities and abilities.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Education: Such as may have been gained through: graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in Forestry; and

Experience: Such as may have been gained through: considerable experience as a Forester.

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

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Conditions for appointment: must be physically qualified to perform assigned duties, as evidenced by a physician's certificate. Must possess a Motor Vehicle Operator's License. Must within (6) months of appointment, obtain a Rhode Island Arborist License and a Pesticide Applicator License issued by the State of Rhode Island and must maintain the aforementioned licensure as a condition of employment.

Class Revised: March 20, 1994

Editorial Review: 3/15/03