

## **MASON CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Stewardship Forester / Natural Resource Specialist 3

SALARY RANGE: \$3,592 - \$4,832 per month

TYPE OF POSITION: Regular, Full-time.

LOCATION: Shelton, Washington

CLOSES: January 3, 2019.

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### **Job Summary**

This position serves as the designated Stewardship and Technical Assistance Forester in Southwest Washington. The position independently consults and provides expert technical assistance to help small forest landowners understand forest road assessments and construction techniques, and timber harvest techniques; and help small forest landowners understand and apply the forest practices rules including small forest landowner alternate plan templates, 20-acre exempt harvest activities, long-term applications, low impact harvest activities, and other Forest Practices Rule related issues.

The position also serves as a stewardship forester in Southwest Washington, primarily in Mason and Thurston Counties. In this capacity, the position independently consults and provides professional judgment to help small forest landowners understand how to develop individual forest stewardship management plans. This position also may provide technical review and approval of forest stewardship plans prepared by others, and responds to forest landowner information and assistance requests for on-site professional forest management advice to support individual landowner objectives, including recommendations regarding forest health problems, and fire risk assessments.

The position collaborates with Washington State University Forestry Extension, USDA NRCS, and WDFW to develop and deliver educational programs and materials for non-industrial forest owners and other natural resource professionals. The work includes program monitoring, evaluation, and reporting functions; and cooperation with other agencies and entities. The position is located in Shelton, WA.

Works under the guidance of the Mason Conservation District. The position reports to the Habitat Program Manager. This is a self-directed professional position responsible for assessing and responding to client and cooperator needs and requests. Work is assigned both in writing and verbally depending on the assignment.

This position serves as the Stewardship and Technical Assistance Forester, and is independently responsible for program implementation in a large geographic area, but does not directly supervise others.

### **Essential Functions**

This position serves as a designated Stewardship and Technical Assistance Forester in Southwest Washington.

This position independently assists small forest landowners to assess their forest lands and provide expert, professional assistance to help them understand how to develop alternate plans and prepare long-term applications, as well as other Forest Practices related activities.

The position also provides professional on-site technical consultative services to help small forest landowners understand low impact harvest activities, and road construction techniques and timber harvest systems.

This position coordinates with other private, federal, state and local entities on technical services and/or administrative functions for forest landowner cost-share or financial incentive programs. In collaboration with other organizations develops educational materials and teaches educational programs for forest landowners, their advisors, loggers, and other clientele.

This position independently consults with small forest landowners to provide professional judgment in helping them to understand how to develop individual forest stewardship management plans.

**The position:**

- Responds to forest landowner requests for information and assistance, including on-site technical assistance regarding forest management practices and diagnosis and recommendations regarding forest health problems, animal damage and competing vegetation control, wildfire risk reduction, and other resource issues and opportunities.
- Reviews and approves Forest Stewardship Management Plans prepared by others.
- Provides technical specifications for forest management practices and silvicultural treatments, including forest chemical recommendations when appropriate.
- Coordinates with, and makes referrals to, other programs and external public and private assistance and service providers.
- Provides independent on-site technical professional assistance to participants in Forest Stewardship Coached Planning Short courses to support Forest Stewardship Plan development.
- Provides certification inspections for the American Tree Farm Program.
- Performs program monitoring, evaluation, and reporting functions as required.
- Coordinates extensively with other programs and external public and private assistance and service providers.
- Partners with other organizations to coordinate and deliver forestry education programs.
- Presents educational classes at Regional Forest Owners Field Days and other educational programs.
- In collaboration with others develops educational materials.

**Other Job Duties**

Participates in training, professional development, and continuing education programs.

Other duties as assigned.

## **Qualifications**

### Required Education, Experience, and Competencies Key Knowledge and Skills

- Bachelor of Science in forestry, or forestry experience equivalent to a Natural Resource Specialist 3 (senior program coordinator/specialist), AND at least five years of operational field experience in forest management in the Pacific Northwest.
- Demonstrated successful professional experience in general forest management activities such as forest road design and construction, timber management planning, silvicultural techniques, reforestation methods, and timber harvest boundaries.
- Current knowledge of Forest Practices rules, Forest Practices Board Manual guidance, and DNR forest practices policies, procedures, and practices.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills, including teaching or public presentation experience.
- Demonstrated ability to work cooperatively and effectively with other agencies and organizations.
- Demonstrated ability to use basic forestry tools (measuring tools and hand tools).
- Demonstrated ability to work independently with little supervision.

### **Other Desired Competencies**

- Works well independently and effectively manages multiple tasks at different stages.
- Experience in Forest Stewardship Plan development.
- Demonstrated successful experience providing technical forestry assistance and educational programs to non-industrial landowners.
- Previous experience working with small forest landowners.
- Working knowledge of Small Forest Landowner Office Capital programs.
- Demonstrated successful experience providing technical forestry assistance and educational outreach to non-industrial small forest landowners.
- Demonstrated ability to use GIS and other mapping tools.

### **Special Requirements and/or Conditions of Employment**

This position requires driving as an essential function. Essential means that driving is a fundamental, crucial part of this position and not a marginal function. Employees who drive for District business, whether in a state or privately-owned vehicle, are required to possess a valid license and abide by all other driver responsibility requirements.

### **Additional required licensing, certification, and/or other conditions of employment:**

Licensure by the state Department of Agriculture to provide forest pesticide recommendations is required within one year of entering the position.

**Working Conditions**

Work is performed in a combination of office, field, and classroom settings. Ability to walk over steep, uneven, forested terrain under a variety of weather conditions year-round is required.

**Schedule Variations**

The position is scheduled to work 8 hours daily Monday through Friday. However, frequent evening and weekend work may be required. There is no financial compensation for extra hours or evening and weekend work, however, Exchange Time is available.

**Travel Requirements**

Frequent travel over a multi-county area is required, including occasional overnight travel. The ability to drive significant distances in a variety of weather conditions, year-round, is required. Nighttime travel is required.

**Equipment Used**

Regular use of motor vehicle, desk or laptop computer and associated software, projector, printer/scanner/fax, cell and desk telephones, vehicle and hand-held radios, and field hand tools is required. Occasional operation of an all-terrain vehicle may be required.

**Customers:**

Primary customers are family forest owners. Additional customers include other non-industrial forest owners, public and private natural resource professionals, loggers, and others.

**Questions?**

Contact: John Bolender, (360) 427-9436, ext. 121, [jbolender@masoncd.org](mailto:jbolender@masoncd.org)

Cover Letter and Resume Must Be Received No Later Than 4:30pm on The Closing Date

Applicants Are Subject To A Pre-Employment Drug Test

Positions With The Mason Conservation District Are Subject To A 90-Day Orientation Period