

## Position Opening: Lead Forester

First review of applications: June 19, 2019



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### **Background:**

Based in Seattle, Northwest Natural Resource Group's mission is to *strengthen the ecological and economic vitality of Northwest forests and communities by connecting people with the knowledge, skills, and markets they need to steward their land*. We focus on forests owned and managed by private landowners, smaller forest product companies, governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, and Indian tribes.

As a think-learn-and-do tank of ecological forestry, NNRG advances the state of knowledge about ecological forestry, spreads the word about its benefits and feasibility, and helps landowners put it into practice on their own forests. We provide access to Forest Stewardship Council® certification, forest management assistance, landowner incentives, marketing, and educational workshops. Our FSC® certificate includes more than 80 certified forests across 195,000 acres in Washington and Oregon, making it the largest certificate in the Pacific Northwest.

### **Summary of Position:**

The Lead Forester works with NNRG's two other foresters and the rest of the NNRG team to manage and oversee ecologically-based timber thinning projects, replanting projects, invasive species removal, and other restoration activities. The Lead Forester manages NNRG's harvest program, oversees its financial success, and coordinates with the other foresters (one of whom reports to the Lead Forester) to meet the program's objectives.

The position is divided about equally between field and office work. Field work includes harvest layout, timber marking, harvest oversight, reforestation oversight, collection of inventory data, securing logging contractors for harvest jobs, and site monitoring. Office work includes permitting, project financial management, forest excise tax preparation, development of harvest and restoration outreach materials, GIS map-making for other NNRG projects, and participation in NNRG research and education work. Landowner communication and client relations, both in the field and from the office, are central to the position.

This is a unique opportunity to help shape the future of forestry in the region by showing how landowners can achieve both ecological and economic objectives through thoughtful harvest.

**To perform this job well, you are:**

- A talented communicator, able to listen carefully and respectfully to a wide variety of landowner goals and values and to translate those goals into forest management opportunities;
- Skilled at cultivating client relationships, along the entire path from initial contact through contract, implementation, and project wrap-up;
- Familiar with the concepts and skills needed to plan and execute ecologically-based forest thinning projects to generate income and restore forest structure and diversity;
- An experienced project manager who excels at meeting deadlines and project budgets, thrives as a systems thinker, and seeks continuous process improvements;
- Competent at the use of the Microsoft Office suite; and
- Passionate about the role that non-industrial forest owners can play in restoring forest ecosystems and rural economies in the Pacific Northwest.

**In addition, the ideal candidate will:**

- Have experience writing ecologically-based forest stewardship plans and Forest Practice Applications;
- Be familiar with the process and business practices of commercial timber sales;
- Be familiar with the application of the Washington Forest Practices Act and the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) principles and criteria to forest management decisions;
- Have created maps using ESRI (ArcGIS) software and managed data using Access;
- Have experience with continuous forest inventory, SuperAce timber cruising software, and forest modeling using FVS.

**Hours, Pay, and Location**

This is a full-time salaried position, with salary depending on experience. Compensation also includes competitive vacation, retirement, and health-insurance benefits. Given the nature of coordinating with landowners and logging contractors, some work may occur in the evenings or on weekends, and may require occasional overnight stays to minimize travel time. You will be expected to provide your own vehicle; NNRG reimburses for mileage traveled to job sites, which are primarily located within a 90-minute driving radius of Tacoma or Olympia. The position requires working a minimum of one day a week at NNRG's Seattle office, and can also include remote work arrangements in the central or south Puget Sound region.

**To Apply**

Please email a cover letter and resume as a single pdf document to [jobs@nnrg.org](mailto:jobs@nnrg.org). Include your last name at the beginning of the file name of the pdf.

For questions about the position, please contact Seth Zuckerman, Executive Director, at [seth@nnrg.org](mailto:seth@nnrg.org). First review of applications will be on June 19.