

Forest Ranger 2**Nature of Work**

Under general supervision, performs independent judgement handling all phases of forest protection including fire, disease and insects. Assists district personnel with landowner requests relating to forestry practices and techniques, timber cruising and marking, disease or insect control measures, and provides forest management and timber cruising and marking services on state owned properties.

Distinguishing Characteristic

At this level the employee has received all necessary training and acquired the skills needed to operate independently in an area or county, cover larger areas or handle special assignments such as training or prevention of a district wide basis.

Examples of Work

- Investigates wildfires to determine probable cause of fire, to recommend or initiate measures to prevent recurrence, to ascertain violation, and to pursue prosecution, work as spotter for contract aircraft for fire detection or to direct suppression activities, for forest insect and disease location and suppression measures.
- Locates and interviews witnesses to obtain evidence pertinent to investigation.
- Initiates prosecution of violators and testifies in court as a state witness.
- Promotes public awareness through speaking engagements, presenting slide programs, exhibits, demonstrations and displays of forest resource use.
- Prepares and distributes news releases and information bulletins.
- Prepares reports and maintains statistics.
- Recommends construction and maintenance relating to fire control facilities.
- Assist local rangers in recruiting, training, or orientation of volunteers.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Knowledge of the methods and techniques of wildfire prevention, control and suppression.
- Knowledge of forest wildfire laws, rules and regulations.
- Knowledge of practices and techniques of forest protection and management.
- Knowledge of first-aid procedures and techniques.
- Ability to establish and maintain good working relationships.
- Ability to coordinate and supervise a wildfire suppression and

Forest Ranger 2 - cont'd.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities - cont'd.

- control program.
- Ability to prepare and present oral, written and visual material for information and education.
- Ability to gather and preserve evidence, to document evidence and prepare clear, factual reports.
- Ability to interpret, use and update topographic, tower and field maps.
- Ability to use computer, analyze data, prepare reports.

Minimum Qualifications

TRAINING: Graduation from an accredited college or university with an associate degree in a Forest Technology program recognized by the Society of American Foresters OR a Bachelor of Science degree in a forestry program accredited by the Society of American Foresters.

EXPERIENCE: Two years of responsible full-time or part-time equivalent paid experience in the field of wildfire prevention or control or natural resources law enforcement and investigation.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Must be licensed or eligible to be licensed to operate a motor vehicle in West Virginia. Must be able to pass physical examination prior to appointment. Must have current license as a registered professional forester or a registered forestry technician or obtain professional licensure upon employment with the Division of Forestry.

Positions with forest fire control and/or logging regulation responsibility must meet the qualifications for and become a Special Conservation Officer at the earliest opportunity following employment and maintain this commission throughout the period of employment in the position.

Established: 9/16/93
Revised: 7/20/95, 6/23/99, 11/18/03
Effective: 11/18/03