

Head of Woodland Regulations Implementation

Forest Services as part of Forestry Commission are the Government's forestry experts. We advise nationally and locally on how to unlock the full potential of woodlands and support the forestry sector to expand, protect, improve, and connect England's valuable woodland assets, ensuring that they continue to provide benefits to people, the environment, and the economy.

Never has there been a more important time for trees, woodlands, and forests to help tackle the climate emergency and provide a much-needed sanctuary for people and wildlife. We aim to at least treble tree planting rates in England by the end of this Parliament, reflecting England's contribution to meeting the UK's overall target of planting 30,000 hectares per year by the end of this Parliament. This acceleration in current planting rates in England will contribute to meeting the net-zero by 2050 ambitions, and to government's wider environmental targets.

The Department for the Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) and the Forestry Commission have set up a joint Nature for Climate Fund (NCF) tree programme for England to support the forestry sector, landowners and communities in the delivery of these ambitions.

Job description

The purpose of the job is to lead the Forestry Commission's implementation of the regulation of woodland creation and woodland management activity, to ensure it helps create well managed woodland in the right place, for the right reasons, and in the most efficient and effective way possible.

The post will:-

- Work closely with other managers the Sustainable Forest Management team and the wider Forestry Commission to ensure team cohesion and a shared understanding of the Forest Service's strategy.
- Ensure timely and compliant implementation of all regulatory and enforcement workloads of the Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) Regulations Implementation team and ensure the integrity of the UK Forestry Standard (UKFS) is maintained in all regulations and provide input into the next review of the UKFS.
- Work closely with NCF programme workstream leads to ensure the implementation of grants and regulations work to complement each other and ensure we consult appropriately with internal and external stakeholders and make robust decisions which can withstand public scrutiny.
- Identify, recruit, and manage resources needed to implement the Forestry Commission's statutory and regulatory duties.
- Ensure the Forestry Commission maintains good working relations with Defra, Natural England, Environment Agency, and other public bodies, and with forestry and environmental NGOs.

Responsibilities

KEY WORK AREAS

Key Work Area 1 - Managing people and partnerships

- Line manage and ensure good performance of 3 Regulations team managers (Pay Band 3) and confirming officer for 10 Regulations officers (Pay Band 4) and provide wider leadership to the regulations implementation team.
- Ensure operational capacity, capability, health and safety, and wellbeing of the Regulations Implementation team through training, development, and effective management for delivery of business objectives, including change implementation.
- Maintain strong working relationships with all staff groups, updating them on the implementation of regulatory and enforcement.
- Identify, recruit and manage resources needed.
- Maintain effective working networks on forestry regulation and enforcement issues across all parts of Forestry Commission, with Defra teams, with Natural England, other Defra bodies, and with forestry and eNGO stakeholders.
- Contribute to the development of the Applicants' Focus Group.
- Deputise for Head of Sustainable Forest Management as required.

Key Work Area 2 - Implementation of regulations

- Ensure the integrity of the UK Forestry Standard (UKFS) is maintained in all regulatory and enforcement decisions, and provide input into the next review of the UKFS.
- Ensure we consult appropriately with internal and external stakeholders and make robust decisions which can withstand public scrutiny.
- Ensure effective and efficient operation of compliant regulatory and enforcement processes to support delivery of government targets and Forestry Commission corporate indicators and Charter targets.
- Ensure FC staff are aware of priorities and procedures and access to accurate regulatory guidance.
- Work closely with Head of Woodland Regulation Development to contribute insight from current regulations delivery to inform regulatory reform.
- Work closely with Head of Woodland Regulation Development to implement the change to Forest Services procedures resulting from regulatory change.

Key Work Area 3 - Business management and system and process change

- Identify and contribute to the change to Forestry Commission's systems and processes to support efficient and transparent regulatory systems and decisions.
- Input into Spending Review processes, FS strategy development and implementation, and business planning.
- Input into monthly Business Monitoring Reporting working with Management Accounting colleagues.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential

- A robust working knowledge of the UK Forestry Standard and current regulatory framework.
- Experience of managing a regulatory and compliance function.
- Experience of successfully leading and managing a team to achieve ambitious targets.
- Excellent programme, project and change management skills.
- Excellent internal and external stakeholder management skills.
- Ability to deliver at pace.
- Excellent influencing and communication skills.

Desirable

- Business management experience including budgetary, forecasting and analytical skills combined with strong judgement and decision-making capability.
- A sound understanding of the challenges faced by the land management sector.
- Forestry qualification or professional membership.
- Demonstration of a leader's commitment towards continuing professional development.
- Membership of (or working towards) a relevant professional institute (e.g. Institute of Chartered Foresters).
- Evidence of maintaining Continuous Professional Development

Benefits

- A Civil Service pension.
- A range of family friendly benefits.
- An environment with flexible working options.
- Learning and development tailored to your role.
- A culture which promotes a diverse and inclusive work environment.
- A range of wellbeing benefits including discounted access to an Employee Assistance Programme 24/7, Bike to Work Scheme, plus many more.
- 25 days annual leave plus 10.5 bank holidays/privilege days (pro rata), rising to 30 days annual leave after 5 years of continuous Civil Service.
- Ability to buy or sell 2 days annual leave.
- 3 days volunteering per year (pro rata).

Salary: £52,500- £58,130

Location: Any FC office (subject to availability in relation to working pattern/blended working arrangements), with regular presence in Bristol and travel nationwide.

To apply, please visit [here](#).

Closing date: Apply before 11:55 pm on Sunday 7th August 2022



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