Area Head Forester
Tilshead, Wilts and Oakhampton, Devon
£33,000

The Challenge

This is an exciting time for DIO and Technical Services as the Sustainability and Environment teams expand to respond to the challenges of Net Zero Carbon, embedding Climate Resilience, and delivering Social Value through our procurements. Sustainability and Environment carries a high profile in the organisation, and we have a key role in delivering the new MOD Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy and the revised Greening Government targets.

Working with the Senior Forester within the Environmental Support and Compliance business area (ES&C), you will be at the forefront of sustainable woodland management, driving delivery and innovation across the estate. This will be an ambitious role and comes with a diverse portfolio of tasks.

The MOD Estate includes MOD Barracks, Airfields, Naval Bases and a vast training estate that extends from the marine environment, through dune systems and across the UK to the mountainous forests and moorlands of Scotland and Northern Ireland. We offer an exciting opportunity to join the forestry team supporting development and management of this multifaceted and heavily designated estate with an emphasis on tree safety management, sustainable woodland management, natural capital and woodland creation.

Main Responsibilities

The Area Head Forester will work within a small team (currently 5x FTE), within DIO Technical Services Environmental Support and Compliance (ES&C) business area.

- Provide oversight and direction in accordance with DIO’s policies and procedures. The postholder ensures the proactive management of all the woodland/amenity tree resource across the UK and Overseas estate and will provide customers with Subject Matter Expert advice for statutory and legal compliance.
- Ensure audit and assurance inspections are coordinated to make best use of resources, targeting Prime Contract geographical regions. The assurance inspections will specifically target health and safety, compliance with MOD policy, forestry/arboricultural management processes and industry partner contract delivery.
- Review and inform MoD forestry policy, long term strategic woodland management plans for the estate and act as forestry focal point for the development of estate management and sustainability plans.
- Handle liaison internally with DIO/ MOD staff and externally with Statutory Bodies, Non-Govt Organisations and other customers. Develop and facilitate conservation/ environmental/ sustainability awareness regarding trees, woods and forests to both internal and external stakeholders.
- Undertake briefings and presentations to internal and external partners.
- Carry out desktop and site inspections to identify possible woodland creation opportunities, collaborating closely with Woodland Creation Advisors (within the Ecology and Natura Capital Team). Discuss proposals with military representatives and the wider DIO team for each site. Identify any possible constraints.
- Work with the Natural Capital Team to record woodland creation opportunity on the Natural Capital Asset Register.

Licences
Full UK Driving Licence

Qualifications
A minimum of an HND in Forestry (or other relevant subject) plus significant post qualification employment or equivalent combination of relevant qualifications, skills and applicable experience.

You should be chartered or working toward Chartered status, or professional membership of the Institute of Chartered Foresters or another relevant professional body is desirable.

To apply, please visit our website.

Closing date: 11.55pm on Wednesday 10 August 2022.