

Environmental Land Management Managers

Location

The role can be based in the Forestry Commission's National Office in Bristol or from any FC office either full time or as a blend of home and office working, however regular travel to National Office in Bristol and potentially overnight stays will be required.

About the job

We are seeking well-motivated individuals with skills and experience in environmental policy, and who are passionate about sustainable forest management and woodland creation.

The Forestry Commission is the government department responsible for protecting, expanding, and promoting the sustainable management of woodlands, while increasing their value to society and the environment.

The role sits within Forestry Commission's cross discipline Future Farming Engagement Team which is responsible for the design and delivery of grants and incentives related to woodland creation, woodland management, and tree health. under DEFRA's Future Farming and Countryside Programme.

The Environmental Land Management sub-team focuses on the design and delivery of the woodland elements of three new schemes being launched by Defra, that will reward environmental land management. These schemes are the Sustainable Farming Incentive scheme, the Local Nature Recovery scheme, and the Landscape Recovery scheme.

These schemes will be piloted in real world situations with a wide range of farmers, foresters and other land managers over the next few years starting in 2021. Following the pilots, these schemes are due to be rolled out fully in 2024 and will replace existing Countryside Stewardship grants.

Working in the Environmental Land Management sub-team requires significant Forestry Commission cross-team working and maintaining close working relationships with core Defra teams, Arm's Length Body (ALB) delivery partners, and stakeholders working on the development of the forestry elements of the schemes and their associated pilots

There has never been a more inspiring time to be involved in forestry. The government's commitment to, and society's interest in, increasing England's tree cover and improving woodlands for wildlife has never been greater. Forest Services, Forest Research and Forestry England - and the forestry sector as a whole - all have exciting and diverse roles to play in this.

We are looking for two ELM managers to oversee FC's input into the development of ELM schemes:

- One post is focused on ELM scheme content and to ensure the schemes deliver on Government's environmental targets and for forestry. The initial focus of this role will be the development of Local Nature Recovery scheme content.
- One post sits within the FFCP sub-team responsible for the design and delivery of the woodland elements of the ELM schemes. The main focus of this role will be the Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI).

Job description

Shared work areas for the ELM Manager roles

- ELM Managers share the following responsibilities in support of the ELM Development manager:

- Support the development of the forestry/woodland elements of Defra's SFI, LNR and LR schemes, and their associated pilots.
- Attend cross-Defra governance meetings around the policy, design and implementation of the pilots, and wider environmental land management programme where relevant, representing forestry/woodland interests and maximising FC input into plans and discussions.
- Provide feedback to project leads relating to risks, issues, progress and use professional judgement to escalate issues accordingly.
- Work with internal FC and external training providers to develop training programmes for environmental land management advice provision and ensure they align with training needs for other relevant programmes.
- Provide support for all engagement and communications activities with stakeholders (internal and external) regarding environmental land management. Assist with resource planning and recruitment to FC pilot delivery teams. Line management of future team members is likely.
- Provide project management resource for FC ELM team

Scheme Content ELM manager – role specific responsibilities

- Represent the Forestry Commission at cross-Defra governance meetings around the policy, design and implementation of the three schemes, and their pilots, representing forestry interests and maximising Forestry Commission input into plans and discussions.
- Collaborate with Subject Matter Experts within the Forest Commission, DEFRA Policy and ALBs to ensure the content of all three schemes reflects up to date forestry policy positions.
- Work closely with other Forestry Commission and Defra teams to ensure that all three environmental land management schemes, and their pilots, can be delivered as part of a broader suite of concurrent grants and schemes – most significantly Countryside Stewardship, the English Tree Planting Programme and Tree Health grants.
- Provide feedback to the Environmental Land Management Development Managers relating to risks, issues and progress, and use professional judgement to escalate issues accordingly.
- Support the Forestry Commission Environmental Land Management Technical Guidance team through effective collaboration and knowledge sharing.

ELM Manager (SFI) – role specific responsibilities

- Increase SFM teams capacity to engage with the delivery of the SFI, LNR and LR schemes and their associated pilots. The role being recruited will primarily focus on SFI but cross scheme work may occur.
- Support key linkages between other Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) sub-teams and the Future Farming and Countryside Programme (FFCP) team within the Policy and Advice team (Pat).
- Engage with the learning work being done around the SFI Pilot both within DEFRA and internally in the FC. Provide feedback and capture lessons learned from the pilot delivery, feeding back to Defra and ensuring continuous improvement.
- Support ELM Officers in their engagement with Area Team staff to effectively collect feedback that can be fed into scheme design and implementation.
- Engage with the Forest Services Area Teams, to support the ELM Development Manager (PB3) in the national coordination of training, business readiness and caseloads.
- Understand the user journey for applicants to the SFI, LNR and LR schemes – including the role of the FC, as a delivery partner.
- Work with counterparts in other FC teams, Natural England, the Environment Agency and the Rural Payments Agency to ensure that the development and delivery models of the SFI, LNR and LR schemes, and their pilots, work for all sectors and delivery partners through to implementation.
- Line manage at least one ELM Officer. There are 5 ELM Officers in the team with management responsibilities split across the 4 ELM Managers.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

ESSENTIAL:

- Strong written and oral communication skills.
- Good organisational and project management skills.
- Ability to deliver at pace on a high-profile programme.
- Knowledge of existing grant schemes, including Countryside Stewardship.
- Knowledge of the land management sector, including farming and forestry.
- Experience of developing effective relationships with a range of public and private sector organisations.

DESIRABLE:

- Robust knowledge of forestry
- Ecology-related qualification or equivalent work experience.
- Membership of a relevant professional institute (e.g. Institute of Chartered Foresters);
- Evidence of having undertaken appropriate management development training and supporting CPD.

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 Civil Service Healthcare, access to an Employee Assistance Programme 24/7, Bike to Work Scheme, plus many more.
- 25 days annual leave, with 1 additional day for each years' service up to 5 years (pro rata)
- Ability to buy or sell 5 days annual leave
- 3 days volunteering per year (pro rata)

Salary £35,870 - £38,842

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

Closing date: Apply before 11:55 pm on Sunday 4th December 2022



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