

# Warren Wilson College

## Position Description

**POSITION TITLE:** Forest Manager

**DEPARTMENT:** Forestry

**REPORTS TO:** Dean of Work

### **POSITION SUMMARY:**

The Forest Manager oversees the sustainable management of all College owned forestland. The Manager is also responsible for training, organizing, coordinating and supervising the field activities of the Forestry Crew, which manages the College's 640 acre forest.

### **SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Assures high standards of safety by all Forestry Crew members at all times, particularly with respect to chain saws, tree felling, prescribed burns, trucks, heavy equipment operation, and all other crew activities.
2. Participates in the field activities of all aspects of forest management, including working with the crew in the forest to the greatest degree possible.
3. Facilitates and encourages students in the development of a responsible work ethic.
4. Trains the student crew, including training in safety procedures; and provides technical expertise for handling of chemicals.
5. Instructs student work crew on certain aspects of equipment operation, safety and field techniques.
6. Takes necessary action to insure proper function, maintenance and operation of equipment.
7. Communicates short and long term goals to students and responds to student concerns.
8. Manages student personnel, including but not limited to, hiring, transfer and performance evaluations.
9. Manages the Forestry budget.
10. Reviews the Forest Management Plan in collaboration with the Forestry faculty member.
11. Maintains the GIS system for the forest.
12. Maintains up-to-date management history records.
13. Maintains forest infrastructure (property lines, roads, trails, gates, fences, parking areas, research plots, etc.).
14. Maintains high quality growing stock (invasive species control, thinning, stand establishment, etc.).
15. Manages timber harvest (firewood, sawtimber for college use, sale of sawlogs or stumpage).
16. Manages production and marketing of non-timber forest products and value added products (mushrooms, medicinal and edible plants, sustainably produced wood products such as hardwood flooring, paneling and trim).

17. Serves on the Long Range Land Use Planning Committee and works with the Academic/Work/Service programs to ensure forest management satisfies the objectives of the College.
18. Cooperates with Forestry Faculty to facilitate meaningful and useful lab sessions and research projects. Assists in the establishment and measurement of long-term forest monitoring plots.
19. Works with other academic departments, as necessary.
20. Performs other duties, as requested by the Dean of Work.

**WORKING CONDITIONS:**

1. Must be able to work up and down steep hillsides, and work in heavy smoke during prescribed burns.
2. Must be able and eager to teach students about forestry, forest operations and technical aspects of silvicultural operations.

**Qualifications**

1. Requires a Bachelors degree in forestry, Masters desired, and experience with Southern Appalachian forests.
2. Must have the ability to write and implement silvicultural prescriptions for mixed-species stands, especially involving regeneration methods. Prescriptions should be based on stand development perspective.
3. Must be able to demonstrate chain saw use and safety, with experience in tree felling. B212 experience required; an instructor's license desirable.
4. Experience with prescribed burning/firefighting essential. Relevant training/education desirable including red card, S190 or S130.
5. Must be willing to use and supervise the use of herbicides.
6. Knowledge of and experience with herbicide use in a forest environment. NC license desirable.
7. Knowledge of and experience with exotic species in a forest environment, and methods of management and control.
8. Operation of heavy equipment including trucks (standard shift), backhoe and bulldozer.
9. Logging experience with small equipment or horses.
10. Emergency first-aid training, First Responder desired.
11. Repair and maintenance experience with small engines (especially chain saws).
12. Other desirable knowledge and experience include: wildlife management and conservation biology in Southern Appalachian forests; sawmilling with a portable hand-saw; wood technology (lumber drying and grading); non-timber resources, such as Shiitake mushrooms or ginseng; and Geographic Information System usage to create forest maps.