

HEAD FORESTER

ROLE DESCRIPTION

Mulgrave is a large and diverse landed Estate located on the North Yorkshire Coast, in the North York Moors National Park. The Estate extends to some 15,000 acres, including 2,500 acres of Forestry, a large in-hand farm and a Registered Park and Garden around Mulgrave Castle.

After 50 years of service our Head Forester is due to retire in spring 2022 and we wish to recruit a replacement with business acumen to sustainably manage the Mulgrave Estate Woods Department. Leading a small team, by example, you will fulfil an important role in the next phase of woodland management across the Estate. This includes management of continuous cover forestry in sensitive locations, as well as conventional thinning and clear fell and replanting operations where viable. The post is a key member of the Estate's management team.

This is a hands-on role, and the successful candidate will have not only business acumen, but be hardworking, committed, trustworthy and experienced in the safe and efficient delivery of woodland operations and able to extract and add value from forestry operations. They must also be able to work on their own initiative on a day-to-day basis and motivate and manage a small team. Candidates should have relevant experience and qualifications to competently operate a wide range of forestry plant and machinery, including tractors, telehandlers, and loaders.

The successful candidate will also be well organised, adaptable, discreet, reliable and can work with enthusiasm, flexibility, and commitment. In view of the varied content of the role, a background of having worked on a rural Estate would be helpful but is not essential. The individual will be a supportive team leader, who is engaging, self-motivated and thrives in working with others but equally alone. Good communication skills are essential.

Key Responsibilities

- Reviewing and updating the Woodland Management Plan.
- Reviewing stewardship, certification, and grant funding options.
- Obtaining felling licences where required.
- Planning, implementation, and control of work programmes.
- Preparation of budgets and working to agreed budgets.
- Ensuring compartment schedules and records are maintained.
- Felling, including work within large mature hardwood compartments and softwood blocks.
- Enhance growth and management of the Estates firewood business.
- Instructing and managing contractors.
- Planting and maintenance of young plantations including delivery of future large scale tree planting schemes.
- Localised management of natural regeneration.
- Marketing of timber.
- Planned and preventative maintenance of roadside trees.
- Estate maintenance.
- Manage the out of hours system, dealing with fallen trees etc.
- Ensure full health and safety compliance and safe working practices.
- Collaborative and team working with other Estate Departments.
- Ensure equipment, machines, and PPE are in good, safe, clean, and functional order.
- Be a positive ambassador for the Mulgrave Estate.

Essential Skills/Qualifications/Training

- A minimum of 10 years relevant experience along with a formal qualification in Forestry Management, preferably holding professional membership of the ICF (Institute of Chartered Foresters) or working towards a similar qualification.
- Spray Qualifications PA01, PA02 & PA06.
- Qualified to fell and process trees over 380mm and deal with uprooted or windblown trees (minimum NPTC Level 2 Chainsaw Qualifications: CS30, CS31, CS32, CS34 & CS35, CS37 Level).

- Rope access/the ability to climb is desirable but not essential.
- Knowledge and/or experience of Carbon Sequestration and Natural Capital desirable.
- Full and clean driving licence.
- Experience of and certification in tractor driving, use of winch and forwarder and telescopic forklift is essential.

Other desirable qualifications include use of ATV, use of Agricultural and Horticultural Machinery and other relevant NPTC/LANTRA/NPORS qualifications or certifications.

A competitive salary, package and further training & development will be available to the right candidate. Housing on the Estate as part of the employment package may be available.

Hours:	Full Time – 40 hrs per week
Salary:	Dependant on experience and qualifications
Benefits:	Pension Scheme, Death in Service and other benefits after 6-month probationary period.
Annual Leave:	25 days per annum, plus 8 public and religious holidays.

Applications in writing with CV to

Robert Childerhouse, Estates Director.

Estate Office, Mulgrave Castle, Whitby YO21 3RJ.

Closing Date: Friday 5 November 2021 at 12 noon.

Interviews will be held on the Estate on Thursday 18 and Friday 19 November.