



CALIFORNIA BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

OFFICE OF FORESTERS REGISTRATION

- What do Foresters do?



FORESTERS WORK IN FORESTED LANDSCAPES

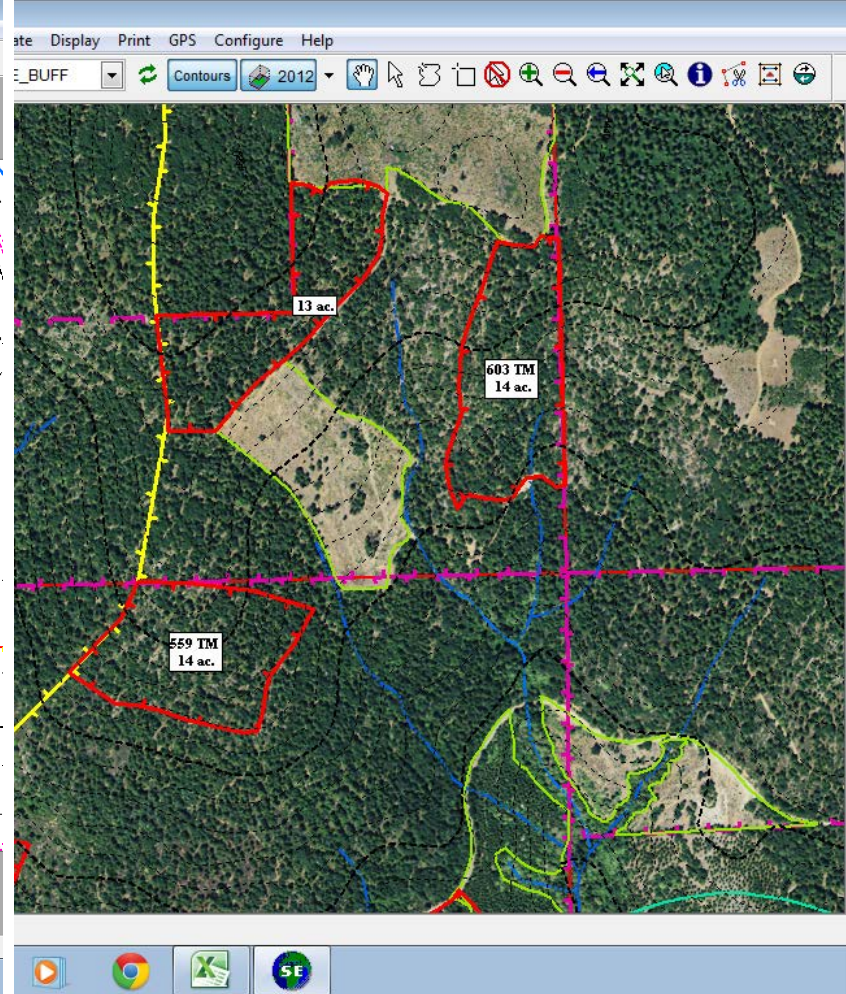
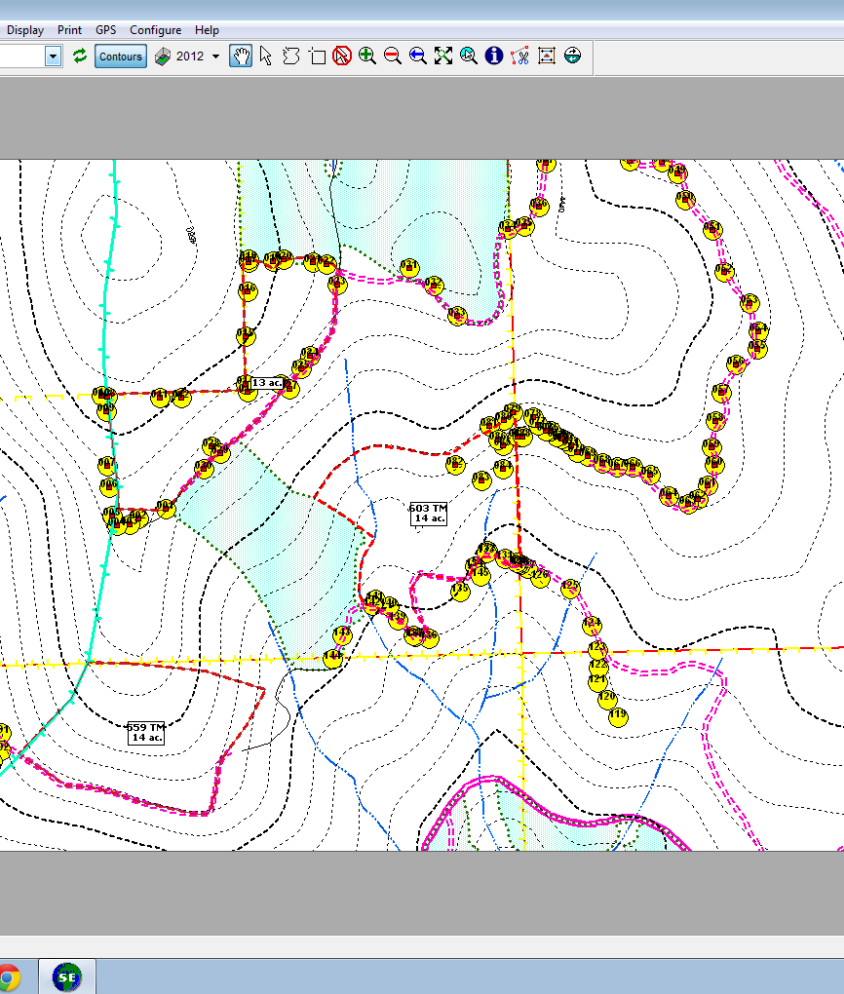
A Professional Forester means a person who, by reason of his or her knowledge of the natural sciences, mathematics, and the principles of forestry, acquired by forestry education and experience, performs services, including consultation, investigation, evaluation, planning, or responsible supervision of forestry activities



FORESTERS WRITE PLANS FOR TIMBER HARVEST

A Timber Harvest Plan (THP) is an environmental document that is the functional equivalent to an Environmental Impact Report under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) passed in 1970.

The THP is prepared by a Registered Professional Forester and details how the timber will be harvested and the steps to be taken to protect the environment. It includes evaluation of the impacts to biological, watershed, soil productivity, visual, traffic, and recreational resources as well as an archaeological report.



15:24] -- GPS Garmin - COM1 - 9600 -- W:121 T:0 (TP:0) P:0 R:0 [E:0]

Latitude DDD	Longitude DDD	Date/Time UTC	Comment	Icon Symbol
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1.8848756	W120.6320498	Wed Jul 24 09:37:11 2013	24-JUL-13 9:37:11AM Ttyp	Custom 3
1.8857813	W120.6302831	Wed Jul 24 09:39:26 2013	24-JUL-13 9:39:26AM Estucorr	Custom 3
1.8843374	W120.6289582	Wed Jul 24 09:55:35 2013	24-JUL-13 9:55:35AM C3	Crossing
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1.8859287	W120.6277732	Thu Jul 25 14:42:10 2013	24-JUL-13 16:05qft Ct To E?	Truck Stop
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1.8836825	W120.6341765	Thu Jul 25 14:42:10 2013	Abandnd Grd Hpad???	Skull and Crossbones
1.8838009	W120.6341715	Thu Jul 25 14:42:11 2013	Candmp 1Ceramic Platepics 7/...	Skull and Crossbones
1.8838154	W120.6342854	Thu Jul 25 14:42:11 2013	Sh1 SHYSTER TS1 PINO CAN D...	Skull and Crossbones
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1.8796880	W120.6364024	Wed Jul 24 11:20:00 2013	24-JUL-13 11:20:15AM Ucor? 611	Truck Stop
1.8802937	W120.6346951	Wed Jul 24 11:36:00 2013	24-JUL-13 11:36:40AM Ubdy	Diver Down Flag 1
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FORESTERS USE GPS TO MAKE MAPS

FOR TIMBER HARVEST PLANS, REFORESTATION, WATERSHED AND ROADS



FORESTERS CONDUCT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEYS

TO IDENTIFY SENSITIVE NATIVE AMERICAN AND HISTORIC SITES



FORESTERS CONSTRUCT AND RECONSTRUCT FOREST ROADS

THEY DESIGN WATERCOURSE CROSSINGS AND LOCATE ROADS FOR TIMBER HARVEST



FORESTERS PREPARE HARVESTED SITES FOR REFORESTATION AND MAINTAIN FOREST HEALTH

THEY PREPARE THE SITE USING PRESCRIBED FIRE, THEN OVERSEE CREWS TO PLANT AND MAINTAIN TREES TO MATURITY



FORESTERS ADMINISTER LOGGING AND ENFORCE THE FOREST PRACTICE RULES

CAL FIRE NEEDS FORESTERS TO ADMINISTER THEIR PROGRAMS IN URBAN FORESTRY, RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, FOREST PRACTICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT



FOR A FORESTER, THE OFFICE IS THE OUTDOORS

FOR A REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL FORESTER CONSULTING OR WORKING IN THE TIMBER INDUSTRY, 3 OUT OF 5 WORKDAYS ARE LIKELY SPENT WORKING OUTDOORS INDEPENDENTLY

HOW DO YOU BECOME A REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL FORESTER?



HOW DO YOU BECOME A REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL FORESTER?

EXPERIENCE



HOW DO YOU BECOME A REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL FORESTER?

EXPERIENCE



EDUCATION

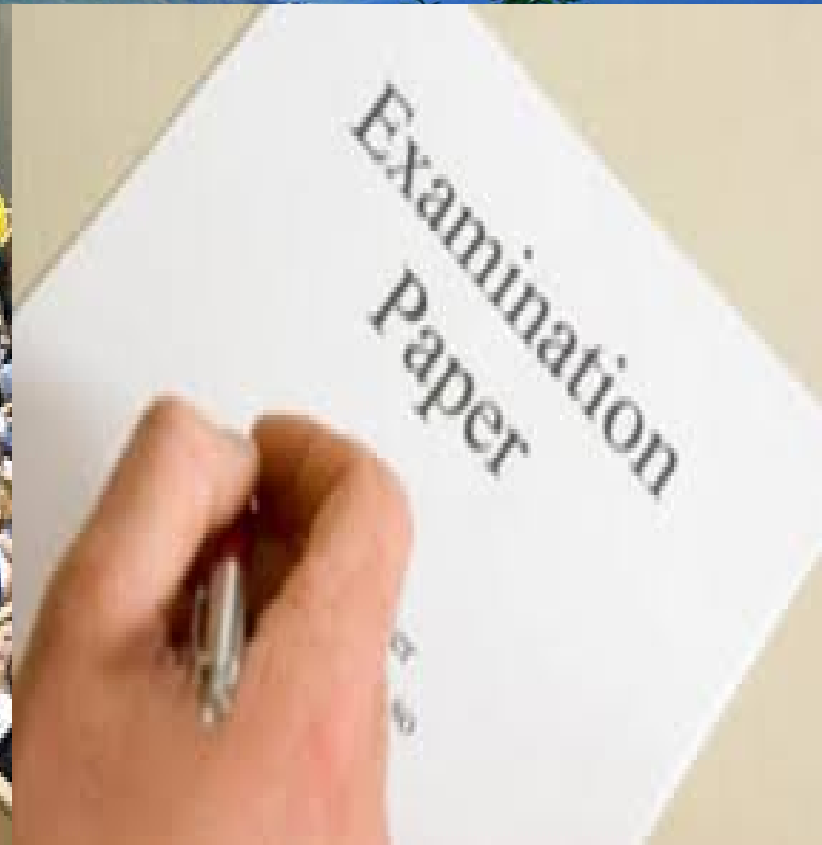


HOW DO YOU BECOME A REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL FORESTER?

EXPERIENCE

EDUCATION

EXAMINATION



TO BECOME AN RPF REQUIRES 7 YEARS OF QUALIFYING EXPERIENCE OR EXPERIENCE COMBINED WITH EDUCATION AND MUST PASS A COMPREHENSIVE EXAM WITH A SCORE OF AT LEAST 75%

- **1621.1. Qualifying Forestry Work Experiences.**
- (a) “Forestry work,” within the meaning of Section 769 of the Code, includes those activities which demonstrate professional competence in the science, art, and practice of managing and using for human benefit while protecting the public interest, the natural resources that occur on and in association with, forest land.
- (b) Forestry experience qualifying to take the exam shall demonstrate an increasing level of responsibility and complexity over the required time, and is more particularly classified as:
 - **(1)** Forest management, which includes that branch of forestry concerned with overall administration in forest economics, legal and social aspects; forest mensuration, forest regulation, and the development of access for protection and management of the resource.
 - **(2)** Silviculture, which includes the science and practice of controlling the composition, constitution, and growth of forests, including also stand improvement, forest nursery production, the techniques of seeding and planting, and reforestation.
 - **(3)** Forest protection, which includes the prevention and control of damage to forests, inclusive of control of forest pests; the prevention and control of wildfire; the protection of soils from erosion, and the reduction and repair of damage resulting from all of these and those related to climatic agent. Up to two years of the activities in this subsection qualify except when Section 1622(c) are met.
 - **(4)** Forest utilization which includes scaling, and logging involving felling, bucking, choker setting, and skidding/yarding. Up to two years of the activities in this subsection qualify except when Section 1622 of this article applies: additional time can qualify when conditions in 1622(c) are met.
 - **(5)** Forest and watershed management planning, initiated and carried out in:
 - **(A)** forest working plans,
 - **(B)** forest practice standards,
 - **(C)** management contracts,
 - **(D)** litigation reports and testimony,
 - **(E)** trespass,
 - **(F)** the development, maintenance and protection of wildlife habitat and forest range resources,
 - **(G)** forest recreation and environmental studies, and
 - **(H)** reconnaissance and mapping in conservation of forest and watershed lands and the yield thereof, including the investigation of wildlands soils.
 - **(6)** Other forest activities, including timber appraisals, forestry research, urban forestry, and teaching college or university courses in forestry.

NON FORESTRY EXPERIENCE INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING

- **1621.2. Non-Qualifying Forestry-Related Work Experience.**
- Some forestry-related activities are not considered “forestry work” experience within the meaning of Section 769 of the Code: landscape gardening; horticulture; arboriculture; tree surgery; loading and hauling of logs or other forest products, operations of wood manufacturing or remanufacturing plants; fire lookouts, dispatchers, and fire equipment operators; and agricultural pursuits not related to tree growing.
- **1621.3. Work Experience Obtained While In a Degree Program.**
- The following criteria applies to substitutions for forestry work experience toward the seven year requirement. No combination of education and work experience may be counted as more than twelve (12) months for any consecutive twelve month period. Thus, periods worked while in a substituted educational degree program do not qualify because this time is already included in the degree. Work periods that exceed the amount of degree time substituted do qualify.

EDUCATION

1621.4. Substitution of Education for Experience.

(b) The following degrees are deemed the equivalent of four years of forestry experience:

- (1) A Bachelor of Science degree with a Major in Forestry, or possession of a Bachelor of Science in Forestry degree from any college or university in the United States or Canada.
- (2) A degree in forestry, however designated, from a foreign college or university based on completion of a program of at least four years of university level work with a major in forestry, subject to review and favorable recommendation of the Examining Committee.
- (3) A Master of Forestry degree awarded an applicant who holds either a Bachelor of Science degree or a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in a field other than forestry may submit such evidence as a comparable degree to the Bachelor of Science in Forestry degree.

EDUCATION

1621.4. Substitution of Education for Experience.

(c) The Committee shall evaluate and determine, on a case-by-case basis, which other college or university degrees may be substituted as qualifying forestry work experience. In no case can any of the following be combined for more than four years substitution.

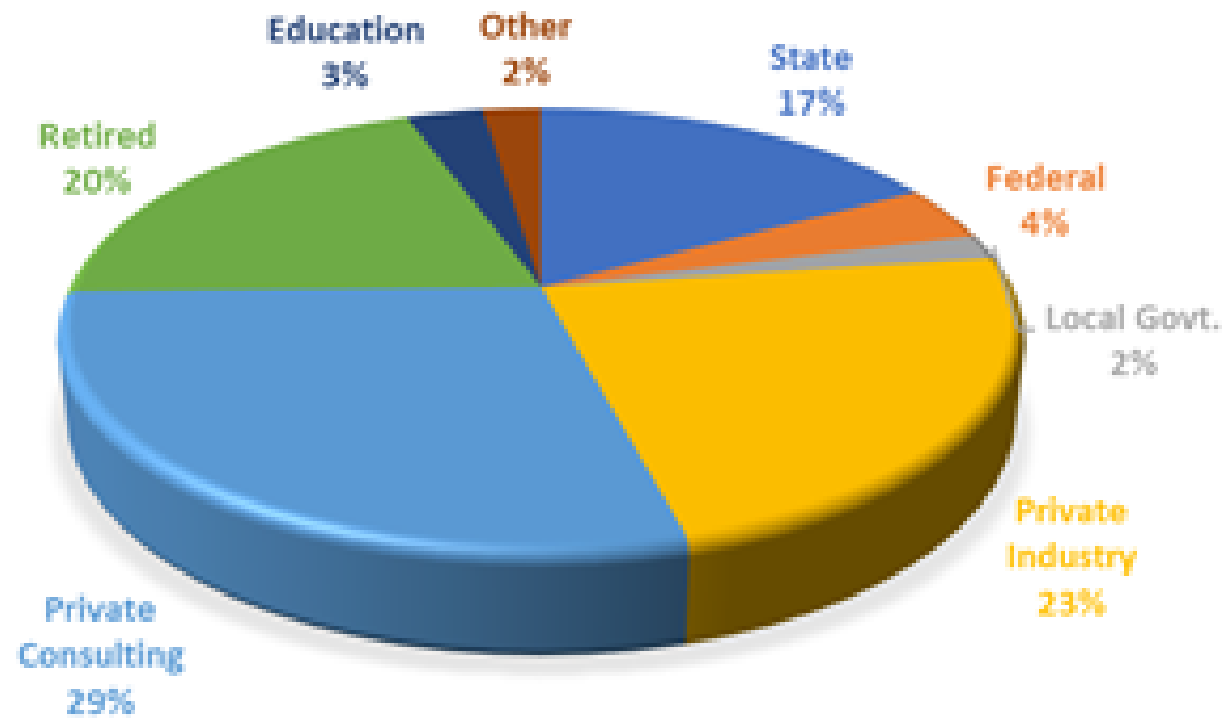
(1) A Bachelor of Science degree in a forestry-related field is not equivalent to a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in forestry. No more than two (2) years shall be substituted for such forestry-related fields including, but not limited to , wood science and technology, wildlife management, range management, soil science or conservation of natural resources.

(2) A Master of Science or Doctor of Philosophy degree in forestry or forestry-related fields can be substituted only when subsection 1621.4(b) of this article does not apply. No more than one (1) year for each of these degrees shall be substituted. A Master of Forestry degree is substituted for only one (1) year unless subsection 1621.4 (b)(3) of this article applies.

(3) An Associate of Science or Associate of Arts with a “major in forestry” from one of the two-year colleges recognized at the time of applicant graduation by the Society of American Foresters can be substituted for two (2) years experience. The lists(s) may be obtained from Professional Foresters Registration, or SAF, 5400 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, Maryland, 20814-2198.

DEMAND FOR FORESTERS IS UP AS A RESULT OF RETIREMENTS

RPF EMPLOYMENT DATA 2016





FORESTRY IS A GREAT CAREER CHOICE

- Both the State and Private Industry are actively recruiting for foresters. Employment is sometimes offered conditionally as long as the applicant agrees to take and pass the RPF exam within 2 to 3 years of employment.
- Starting pay for a Registered Professional Forester in both State and Private Industry can range from \$ 50,000 to 65,000 annually with medical, dental, vision and retirement benefits
- Foresters in the field will often be assigned vehicles to take home from work
- The days are long but you work independently in the field. You have to be a self starter.
- Foresters with the State usually have to go through 14 weeks of Fire Academy. When you are done, you are equivalent to a Firefighter 1 and can be assigned to wildland fires for a variety of duties.
- If you like the outdoors, this is a very low stress, lifestyle job that pays well.

CAL FIRE FORESTRY POSITIONS

Position Title

Requirements

Forestry Aide

Either

1) Education: Completion of at least 12 semester units or 18 quarter units from a recognized accredited college or university in forestry or fire science, natural resource management, conservation, or a closely related subject.

Or

2) Three months of experience with public or private entities performing sub-professional work in forestry, fire prevention, fire suppression and control, natural resource management, or other related work.

CAL FIRE FORESTRY POSITIONS

Position Title

Requirements

Forestry Technician

Either

1) Education: Equivalent to 15 semester units of college in forestry, natural resource management, conservation, or a closely related subject.

Or

2) Experience: Six months of experience in practical resource management, conservation, or field work in a State of California resources agency department or in a forest management/timber harvesting operation. (Qualifying experience Includes: reforestation, timber harvest operations, urban forestry, or other related forestry/nursery work; or environmental resource protection work including Resource Protection Trainee/Fire Prevention Assistant, or related fire control experience in the Resources Agency or as a corps member in a California Conservation Corps/California Department of Forestry fire center.)

Or

3) One year of urban resource community organizing work such as tree planting, community gardening, park development, and civil landscape beautification programs. And

Education: Equivalent to completion of the 12th grade.

CAL FIRE FORESTRY POSITIONS

Position Title

Requirements

Forestry Assistant I

Either

1) Two years of experience in California state service performing the duties of a Forestry Technician. (Candidates who are within six months of meeting experience requirements may take the examination but cannot be appointed until they have obtained the required experience.)

Or

2) Three years of experience in practical resource management or conservation work. (Qualifying experience includes: reforestation, timber harvest operation, urban forestry, or other related forestry work; environmental protection work; fire control experience in the California Department of Forestry, of which a minimum of one year must have been performing duties at a level of responsibility equivalent to the class of Fire Fighter II.)

Or

3) Education: Equivalent to graduation from technical school in forestry or an AA or AS degree in forestry, natural resources, conservation, or a closely related subject. (Applicants who are within six months of graduation will be admitted to the examination but they must produce evidence of graduation or its equivalent before they can be considered eligible for appointment.)

CAL FIRE FORESTRY POSITIONS

Position Title

Requirements

Forestry Assistant II

Either

1) Three years of experience in California state service performing the duties of a Forestry Assistant I. (Candidates who are within six months of meeting experience requirements may take the examination but cannot be appointed until they have obtained the required experience.)

Or

2) Five years of progressively responsible resource management experience. (Qualifying experience includes: reforestation, timber harvest operations, urban forestry, or other related forestry work; environmental protection work; fire control experience in the California Department of Forestry, of which a minimum of two years must have been at a level of responsibility equivalent to the class of Fire Apparatus Engineer.)

Or

3) Education: Equivalent to graduation from college with a degree in forestry, natural resource management, conservation, or a closely related subject. (Registration as a senior will admit applicants to the examination, but they must produce evidence of graduation or its equivalent before they can be considered eligible for appointment.)

THE END

