

WHAT KIND OF FOREST SECTOR JOBS ARE OUT THERE ?



When people hear “forest sector career” they might think either “logger” or “park ranger.” The truth is there is a vast array of career opportunities in the forest sector that can take you from the forest floor to the boardroom, from the engineering lab to the manufacturing plant. In 2008, there were more than 63,000 Oregonians employed in the forest sector. The industry is the second largest contributor to Oregon’s economy. With an expected increase in global demand for wood products, there will be a need for a skilled forestry work force for years to come.

OVER 63,000 OREGONIANS ARE WORKING IN THE FOREST SECTOR.



A LIVING WAGE

Forest sector wages depend on your education level, experience, training, location and performance. Entry-level positions such as an apprentice millwright may start at \$27,000 a year, while a forest engineer can earn \$76,000. Some careers require a college or trade school education; others can be started right out of high school.

MODERN SKILL SET

The number and type of modern forest sector careers have expanded as a result of advances in technology. Lasers, computers and joystick controls enable machine operators to optimize production—from raw logs to finished structural panels. Wood byproducts from high-tech mills are recovered and engineered into new, useful consumer products. Wood chemists research and develop new adhesives, preservatives and other innovative products. Evolving technology and “green business” objectives are bringing new career opportunities to the forest sector every day.

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Oregon’s Legislature created the Oregon Forest Resources Institute to improve public understanding of Oregon’s forest resources and to encourage sound forest practices

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