



We're Hiring!

FORESTER

Hood River County Employment Opportunity
Forestry Department

October 2026

Forester

Help steward our forests. We are seeking a dedicated **Forester** to play a key role in managing and enhancing one of our most valuable natural resources. This position offers a unique blend of fieldwork and technical forestry responsibilities, from overseeing timber harvest and forest improvement projects to supporting reforestation, inventory, recreation, and land management initiatives. If you are passionate about sustainable forestry, enjoy solving complex challenges, and thrive both in the woods and the office, we invite you to join our team.

Must Haves:

- Bachelor of Science Degree in Forestry or Forest Engineering with 2 year forest management experience or Bachelor of Science Degree with 4 years of forest management experience.
- High School Diploma required.
- Considerable knowledge of methods, practices and procedures used in preparation of timber sales, logging; reforestation and timber stand improvement; inventory; fuels treatment and basic fire control; use and maintenance of forestry equipment; first aid and CPR.
- Knowledge or experience with electronic data collection and use of GIS software.
- Valid Motor Vehicle Operator license.
- Oregon Public Pesticide Applicator's license.
- Any satisfactory combination of education, experience or training as determined by the hiring authority.

Essential Responsibilities:

- Inspects contract logging and TSI operations to ensure compliance. Assists with project management.
- Responsible for planning, field and office organization and accomplishment of all phases of TSI work including reforestation, vegetation management, and improved seed projects.
- Assists in the preparation of timber sales including locating sale boundaries, timber cruising, GPS of sale features, creating volume reports, and riparian area written plans; evaluating lands for trade.
- Assist in fire control work and slash burning.
- Operate personal or mobile computers; utilize spreadsheets and word processing, cruising, GIS (Geographic Information System), and GPS (Global Positioning System) software.
- May assist with road access and improvement tasks, recreation trail and campground management.
- Stand Inventory planning, cruising and data management. May assist with FPS Growth Modeling and Inventory.
- May be required to provide training and supervision of seasonal staff and Tech staff.
- Performs related duties as necessary. May be assigned to work temporarily with other County Departments.

Qualifications:

- Ability to perform logging and TSI inspections for compliance, verbally communicate with contractors and staff.
- Ability to perform forest improvement work and perform strenuous work.

- Ability to regularly lift up to 25 pounds and occasionally lift or move 50 pounds.
- Ability to work outdoors in all weather conditions on steep, uneven, brushy and broken terrain.
- Ability to understand, follow and execute oral and written instruction and documents.
- Ability to write routine reports and documents, written, oral and electronic correspondence and maintain records.
- Ability to work with mathematical concepts such as probability, statistics, geometry and trigonometry.
- Ability to apply concepts such as fractions, percentages, ratios, and proportions to practical situations.
- Ability to speak effectively before groups of customers or employees.
- Ability to supervise and organize work of others and manage projects to satisfactory completion.
- Skill in the operation and use of specialized equipment and tools to perform duties.

Wage: Starting at \$33.47/hr. depending on experience

Longevity: 2.5% on base salary beginning after the 5th year of employment; additional 2.5% increase each 5-year period thereafter.

Additional Compensation: Spanish Bi-lingual Fluency

Benefits: 100% paid Public Employee Retirement; shared cost for medical, dental, and vision insurance; paid sick leave; paid vacation; 11 paid holidays; Flexible Spending; Deferred Compensation; and HRA.

Application Process:

Review and complete the full Hood River County Application. Scroll down to find the application.

While this position will remain open until it is filled, **we will aim to schedule our first interviews by late-October**. We will be reviewing applications frequently. If there are any questions regarding this process, please reach out to Hood River County Human Resources.

Email: hr@hoodrivercounty.gov

Phone: 541-387-6879

In Person: 601 State Street, Hood River, OR – 3rd Floor Administration Office

HOOD RIVER COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.



HOOD RIVER COUNTY

*A small county with a big mission:
Providing Quality of Life for All.*

FLSA Status: Non-exempt

Union: AFSCME 2503

Work Comp Code: 8602

EEOC: Skilled Laborer

Salary Grade: 6A

Last Update: October 2026

JOB TITLE	Forester
Reports to	Forestry Director

Job Summary

Oversees administration of contracts, assists with contract development and sale layout tasks, leads timber stand improvement (TSI) operations. Performs difficult technical work in various phases of a forest management program including reforestation, timber cruising, inventory, tree improvement, veg management, database use and recreation.

Essential Duties

- Inspects contract logging and TSI operations to ensure compliance. Assists with project management.
- Responsible for planning, field and office organization and accomplishment of all phases of TSI work.
- Assists in the preparation of timber sales including locating sale boundaries, timber cruising, GPS of sale features, creating volume reports, and riparian area written plans; evaluating lands for trade.
- Assist in fire control work and slash burning.
- Operate personal or mobile computers; utilize spreadsheets and word processing, cruising, GIS (Geographic Information System), and GPS (Global Positioning System) software.
- May assist with road access and improvement tasks, recreation trail and campground management.
- Stand Inventory planning, cruising and data management. May assist with FPS Growth Modeling and Inventory.
- May be required to provide training and supervision of seasonal staff and Tech staff.
- Performs related duties as necessary. May be assigned to work temporarily with other County Departments.

Knowledge and Skills

- Ability to perform logging and TSI inspections for compliance, verbally communicate with contractors and staff.
- Ability to perform forest improvement work and perform strenuous work.
- Ability to regularly lift up to 25 pounds and occasionally lift or move 50 pounds.
- Ability to work outdoors in all weather conditions on steep, uneven, brushy and broken terrain.
- Ability to understand, follow and execute oral and written instruction and documents.
- Ability to write routine reports and documents, written, oral and electronic correspondence and maintain records.
- Ability to work with mathematical concepts such as probability, statistics, geometry and trigonometry.
- Ability to apply concepts such as fractions, percentages, ratios, and proportions to practical situations.
- Ability to speak effectively before groups of customers or employees.
- Ability to supervise and organize work of others and manage projects to satisfactory completion.
- Skill in the operation and use of specialized equipment and tools to perform duties.

Minimum Qualifications

- Considerable knowledge of methods, practices and procedures used in reforestation, logging, timber stand improvements, and preparation of timber sales; basic fire control; use and maintenance of forestry equipment; first aid/CPR.
- Knowledge or experience with electronic data collection and use of GIS software.
- Valid Motor Vehicle Operator license.
- Oregon Public Pesticide Applicator's license.
- Bachelor of Science Degree in Forestry or Forest Engineering with 2-year forest management experience or Bachelor of Science Degree with 4 years of forest management experience.
- High School Diploma required.
- Any satisfactory combination of education, experience or training as determined by the hiring authority.

Supervision Received and Exercised:

- Supervision Received: Forestry Director
- Supervision Exercised: May provide occasional direction over temporary and seasonal staff

Working Conditions

While performing the duties of this job, the employee regularly works in all weather conditions, is exposed to hot, cold, wet and/or humid conditions and regularly works in hazardous conditions such as bees, poison oak, etc. The employee occasionally works in steep, high or precarious places and is occasionally exposed to fumes, airborne particles and toxic or caustic chemicals. The employee frequently works near moving mechanical parts and is frequently exposed to vibration. The employee is regularly required to walk uneven, difficult, unstable terrain, operate motor vehicles or be stationed in a workspace. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate.



HOOD RIVER COUNTY

Application for Employment

601 State Street, Hood River OR 97031
Email: hr@hoodrivercounty.gov Phone: 541-387-6879



Hood River County provides equal employment opportunities to all qualified employees and applicants, without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran's status, or any other status protected by applicable federal, Oregon, or local law. Our Equal Employment Opportunity policy applies to all aspects of the employment relationship including, but not limited to, recruitment, hiring, compensation, promotion, demotion, transfer, disciplinary action, layoff, recall, and termination of employment. To claim veterans' preference in hiring, complete the Veteran's Preference Form and submit it with the required documentation at the time you submit this application.

THIS APPLICATION WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR THIS SPECIFIC JOB. IT WILL NOT BE RETAINED FOR FUTURE POSITIONS. IF YOU DESIRE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A POSITION AT A FUTURE TIME, YOU MUST FILE A NEW APPLICATION. IF HIRED, THIS APPLICATION WILL BECOME PART OF YOUR PERMANENT PERSONNEL FILE. PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE. YOUR APPLICATION MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED IF INCOMPLETE OR SUBMITTED PAST AN ESTABLISHED DEADLINE.

Position				
Position Applying For		Available Start Date	Where Did You See This Job Posting:	
Personal Information				
Name				
Address		City	State	Zip
Phone Number	Mobile Number	Email Address		
Are you able, at the time of employment, to submit verification of your legal right to work in the United States? Yes ☐ No ☐ (Proof of identity will be required upon employment)				
Education	List any colleges, military, trade, business or other schools attended.			
Do you have a high school diploma or GED Certificate? Yes ☐ No ☐				
School Name	Location	Diploma/Degree	Major/Minor	Did you Graduate?
Certificates & Licenses		List any professional license, registration, or certificate required or preferred for the position.		
Type	Issuing Agency		Date Issued	Date Expires

References			
Name	Title	Company	Phone

Employment History			
The information in this section will be used to determine if you meet the minimum qualifications as outlined in the job announcement. List ONLY the job(s) (paid, military or volunteer) where you obtained the experience that qualifies you for the job. Clearly describe all your duties, starting with your most recent job. Resumes will be accepted, but will not be accepted in place of a completed application. If you need additional space, attach a separate sheet.			
Employer (1)	Job Title	Dates Employed	
Address	City	State	Zip
Supervisor Name	Phone Number	May we contact? Yes ☐ No ☐ Later ☐	
Reason for leaving			
Duties			
Employer (2)	Job Title	Dates Employed	
Address	City	State	Zip
Supervisor Name	Phone Number	May we contact? Yes ☐ No ☐ Later ☐	
Reason for leaving			
Duties			

Employer (3)	Job Title		Dates Employed	
Address	City	State		Zip
Supervisor Name	Phone Number	May we contact? Yes ☐ No ☐ Later ☐		
Reason for leaving				
Duties				

Employer (4)	Job Title		Dates Employed	
Address	City	State		Zip
Supervisor Name	Phone Number	May we contact? Yes ☐ No ☐ Later ☐		
Reason for leaving				
Duties				

Certification & Signature				
I hereby certify that all statements made in this application are true, and I agree and understand that any statement that is false, fraudulent, or misleading in this application or attached material, during the interview or screening process, or discovered during the course of any employment-related process (post hire) may result in the revoking of a job offer or termination of employment. • I certify that all statements contained herein are true and complete. • I understand that I must provide proof I am authorized to work in the United States, in accordance with federal law, if I am hired. • I authorize the employing entity to verify the employment and education information provided in this employment application. • I authorize my driving record to be checked if the position for which I am applying requires driving. • I understand and agree to be subjected to a pre-employment drug screening, criminal history background and credit check, if applicable. Signature: _____ Date: _____				

Veterans' Preference Form (ORS 408.230)

Veterans who meet the minimum qualifications for a position open for recruitment may be eligible for preference in employment under Oregon law. If you are a Qualified Veteran or Qualified Disabled Veteran and would like to be granted preference in the selection and hiring process for a specific posted job, please fill out this Veterans' Preference Form and provide proof of eligibility by submitting a copy of form DD-214 or 215 (copy 4). This completed form and required supporting documentation must be submitted with your application in order for consideration for Veterans' Preference.

Qualified Veteran Questions: *Veterans' preference may be claimed if you check at least one of the boxes below and provide proof via form DD-214 or 215 (Copy 4)*

ORS 408.225(f) – I served on active duty with the Armed Forces of the United States:

- ☐ For a period of more than 90 consecutive days beginning on or before January 31, 1955, and was discharged or released under honorable conditions;
- ☐ For a period of more than 178 consecutive days beginning after January 31, 1955, and was discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions;
- ☐ For a period of 178 days or less and was discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions because of a service due to a service-connected disability;
- ☐ For a period of 178 days or less and was discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions and have a disability rating from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; or
- ☐ For at least one day in a combat zone and was discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions;
 - ☐ Received a combat or campaign ribbon or an expeditionary medal for service in the Armed Forces of the United States and was discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions; or
 - ☐ Receiving a nonservice – connected pension from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs

Qualified Disabled Veteran Questions: *Additional preference may be claimed if you check at least one box below and provide proof of eligibility via a copy of DD214 or 15 (Copy 4), and a public employment preference letter from the United States Department of Veteran's Affairs (letter may be requested by calling 800-827-1000)*

- ☐ I am entitled to disability compensation under laws administered by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; or
- ☐ I was discharged or released from active duty for a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty; or
- ☐ I was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in combat.

I hereby claim Veterans' Preference, have attached proof of eligibility as directed and certify that the above information is true and correct. I understand that any false statements may be cause for my disqualification, or dismissal, regardless of when discovered.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Position Applied For: _____

This form and supporting documentation must be received by the Human Resources Department no later than the closing time and date of the job posting. If you have any specific questions, please contact Human Resources.

(541) 387-6879 or email hr@hoodrivercounty.gov