



Oklahoma Forestry Services

A Division of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

Outreach Notice

Forester I (FIA Field Forester)

Statewide Responsibility—Forest Inventory & Analysis

Seminole, OK in Central Oklahoma

Approximate Salary: \$2,640/month

Employment Status: Fulltime

Application Deadline: Open until filled

JOIN US AT OKLAHOMA FORESTRY SERVICES FOR A GREAT CAREER!

WE ARE RECRUITING TO FILL A PERMANENT, FULL-TIME FOREST INVENTORY & ANALYSIS FIELD FORESTER POSITION TO WORK WITH OTHER FIA CREWMEMBERS COLLECTING STATEWIDE FOREST DATA.

Major Duties: FIA consists of an extensive inventory of the forestlands, woodlands, and associated rangelands across the state using a network of permanent research plots. Data collection is performed by highly trained, two-person crews that visit each research plot and record measurements using standard national and regional protocols and procedures. The entire inventory effort follows strict program standards to meet the yearly planned objectives—data collection on 10-20% of all plots each year. The FIA Field Forester is generally responsible for carrying out the duties described below in cooperation with agency personnel, other state and federal agencies, private landowners, and program cooperators. Responsibilities include:

- becoming fully trained and certified in FIA data collection procedures and program policies (on the job training with USFS FIA personnel)
- becoming thoroughly familiar with FIA program policies following data collection procedures outlined in FIA Field Manual
- interpreting aerial photographs, using GPS technology, and maps to find plot locations
- utilizing forestry measurement tools, hand-held computers, etc., to collect data accurately
- planning wisely to transmit data promptly and meet productivity targets
- cooperating with and participating in other programs within Oklahoma Forestry Services



Beech Creek cataracts - LeFlore County

Education and Experience: Requirements at this level consist of a bachelor's degree in forestry from an accredited university. Other important attributes include good problem-solving skills, oral and written communication skills, ability to plan, computer skills, the ability to develop effective working relationships with a variety of people, ability to think independently and exercise good judgement.

Physical Demands & Work Environment: The position is primarily responsible for conducting forest inventory on assigned plots in the southern half of the state. This position is physically demanding. The majority of work is performed outdoors, often in rough terrain, with dense briars and underbrush, in hot or cold, wet, windy, or otherwise inclement weather. Vehicular travel throughout the state and hiking to individual plot locations are a considerable aspect of the job. In rare instances, FIA duties may require swimming or wading in order to reach sites to obtain resource data when boat or other access is not available.

Travel or Special Requirements: A valid Oklahoma driver's license is an important job requirement, and frequent travel is an obligation of this position. Although activities focus on the southern counties, plot work and travel statewide is necessary in support of other FIA personnel and for training. An average of **70% of the year** may be spent in travel



Scattered trees in the Quartz Mountains – Greer County

status where it is more efficient to stay overnight rather than to return home or the base station. The FIA employee may also attend OFS meetings, and other FIA training opportunities that require overnight in-state or out-of-state lodging.

The employee must complete a structured training program and become certified in FIA plot measurement procedures within 5 months of employment or as soon as practical, based upon the federal training schedule. The FIA employee must maintain an accuracy rating on all plots in order to maintain FIA certification after completion of the training period.

More Information: Contact FIA Program Coordinator, Carri Abner via email at carri.abner@ag.ok.gov or by phone at 918.290.9208 for more information.

How to Apply: Applications are submitted electronically through the state's Human Capital Management Division at the following website: <http://www.jobaps.com/ok/>. Degrees in natural resources or NREM degrees sometimes get kicked out as not qualified, so be sure to indicate your degree is in forestry or you have a forestry emphasis. Oklahoma Forestry Services' website provides more information about the agency and also provides a link to the application website: <http://www.forestry.ok.gov/employment>.

Oklahoma Forestry Services: Oklahoma Forestry Services consists of a relatively small team of professional foresters, rangers and support staff. The organization's size provides foresters with a variety of work experiences, the opportunity to assist with other operations and a diversity of special projects.

Learn more about Oklahoma Forestry Services:

www.forestry.ok.gov

www.facebook.com/OklahomaForestry

<https://twitter.com/OKForestService>