



INTRODUCTION TO FORESTRY

We Love Our Work
Take up a Career in Forestry



**FOREST INDUSTRY
CONTRACTORS
ASSOCIATION**



INTRODUCTION TO **FORESTRY**

Contents

Forestry is a fast-growing sector offering a broad range of career opportunities whether you're just setting out on your career, or looking for a career change with great potential.

It is an industry that involves much more than growing and harvesting plantation forests. People of all ages and abilities will find great careers in forestry – planting and managing native and exotic forests, looking after the forest environment, managing people and resources, working with state-of-the-art technology, and operating multi-million dollar machines and equipment. Some forestry jobs go all year, while others are seasonal. Some are inside, some are outside. See what job is right for you. Forestry has many different job opportunities and some well-defined career pathways. Whether you are still at school or just starting out, or have been working for some time, you can improve your skills and career choices through training and education. More than 20,000 people are directly employed in New Zealand's forestry industry and you can get a job in forestry in just about any region around New Zealand, working better hours and earning better wages than in pretty much any other primary industry.

Working in forestry is satisfying. You are protecting the environment, both by directly caring for nature and by maintaining New Zealand's carbon sinks.

You are also contributing to the economy. It's personally rewarding as you can easily see your progress during your day's work and you are working with a crew of like-minded people who often become like family.

Advances in technology mean forestry is one of the fastest progressing primary industries. Increased mechanisation and robotic technology is increasing production and safety in forestry, while making it an exciting sector to work in.

Genetics

Nursery & Planting

Silviculture & Establishment

Harvesting & Engineering Technology

Innovation & Technology

Export & International Markets

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Women in Forestry

Transport – Share the Road

1BT & ETS Farm Forestry



GENETICS

Our trees start with science

Ki-Taurangi Bradford Senior Technician in Forestry Genetics



What I do?

As a Senior Technician in Forestry Genetics, Ki-Taurangi's role involves working in a tissue culture lab, on a range of different projects that involve propagating in tissue culture with a focus on biotechnology. Whether for conservation purposes or private clients, the aim is to optimise tree growth and desired tree traits.

Where to start:

I am naturally a curious person and was interested in biology at school. I decided to study a Bachelor of Science at Victoria University. I took a graduate position working in 3 teams gaining skills in tissue culture, nursery and quantitative and molecular genetics. I chose to specialise in tissue culture because it was hands-on, with a combination of getting to see the plants as well as getting to work in the lab. I am now completing my Master of Science in Biosecurity and Conservation. The best part about my job is getting to work towards conservation goals in New Zealand.



“The best thing about my job is getting to work towards conservation goals in New Zealand.”

Next steps

Check out these roles in Science at www.forestrycareers.nz/forestry-careers or scan the QR code to find out more



NURSERY & PLANTING

Improving our world one tree at a time

Ngarimu Heremia Mana Nursery Technician at Scion Research



What I do?

As a Nursery Technician, Ngarimu's responsibilities include:

- Planting seedlings
- Lifting seedlings
- Spraying / fertilising
- Operating the paper pot manufacturing machine
- Monitoring seedling health / looking after infant trees until they're ready for planting

Where to start:

Before forestry I was working in the kiwifruit industry in a packhouse, and also in a bakery that was closer to home. My older brother worked at the nursery first and encouraged me to go for a job. I've been here for about a year, and I really like that I get to work both indoors and outdoors at times. I'm interested to learn more about the science of trees, gaining more knowledge about tree varieties and horticulture in general.



"I'm interested to learn more about the science of trees, gaining more knowledge about tree varieties and horticulture in general."

Next steps

Check out these roles in Establishment and Silviculture at www.forestrycareers.nz/forestry-careers or scan the QR code to find out more



SILVICULTURE & ESTABLISHMENT

Our forests start with skilled people

Malone Te Kaawa-Ripia Silviculturist at Inta-wood Forestry



What I do?

As a Silviculturist, Malone's key responsibilities include:

- Pruning
- Planting
- Release spraying
- Fertilising

Where to start:

Before joining Inta-Wood Forestry, I had completed a fitting and turning course, but I was unable to secure an apprenticeship. The opportunity to try silviculture came about through Work and Income, and I've been here for almost 3 years. The thing I enjoy most about the job is working outdoors and becoming a successful worker, earning a living. I've completed a leadership course with my employer, which I found really rewarding and interesting. It's a hard job, but it's very rewarding and fulfilling. You'll have days where you may fail or make a mistake, but if you take the lesson and learn from it, it's a rewarding opportunity.



"It's a hard job, but it's very rewarding and fulfilling. You'll have days where you may fail or make a mistake, but if you take the lesson and learn from it, it's a rewarding opportunity."

I get to travel to great places, work with great people, and have opportunities for training and development.

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HARVESTING & ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Machines and design for safety and the environment

Dale McKenzie Carriage Team Leader at DC Equipment



What I do?

As a Carriage Team Leader, Dale's key responsibilities are:

- Overseeing the build process of logging carriages
- Manufacturing carriage body parts
- Assembling manufactured parts into carriages
- Equipment testing
- Coordinating logistics of outwork and suppliers
- Managing workshop staff / personnel

Where to start:

My Dad is a Diesel Mechanic and always owned and fixed logging trucks, so forestry and machinery have always interested me. When I finished school, I completed a pre-trade course at Polytech, and worked at the Logger Shop. I did my 4-year apprenticeship with DC Equipment and am a Qualified Mechanical Engineer. The best part about my job is knowing that the work I do allows guys working with our equipment to go home safe at



“Knowing that the work I do makes it safer for the guys to work and come home at night is a really rewarding part of my job.”

the end of the day. Forestry has a lot of character building – if you're an 'out there' person or willing to meet lots of different people, then it's a great place to be.

Next steps

Check out these roles in Engineering and Harvesting at www.forestrycareers.nz/forestry-careers or scan the QR code to find out more



INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY

Developing our skills in new ways

Keegan McIntosh Electrical Apprentice at DC Equipment



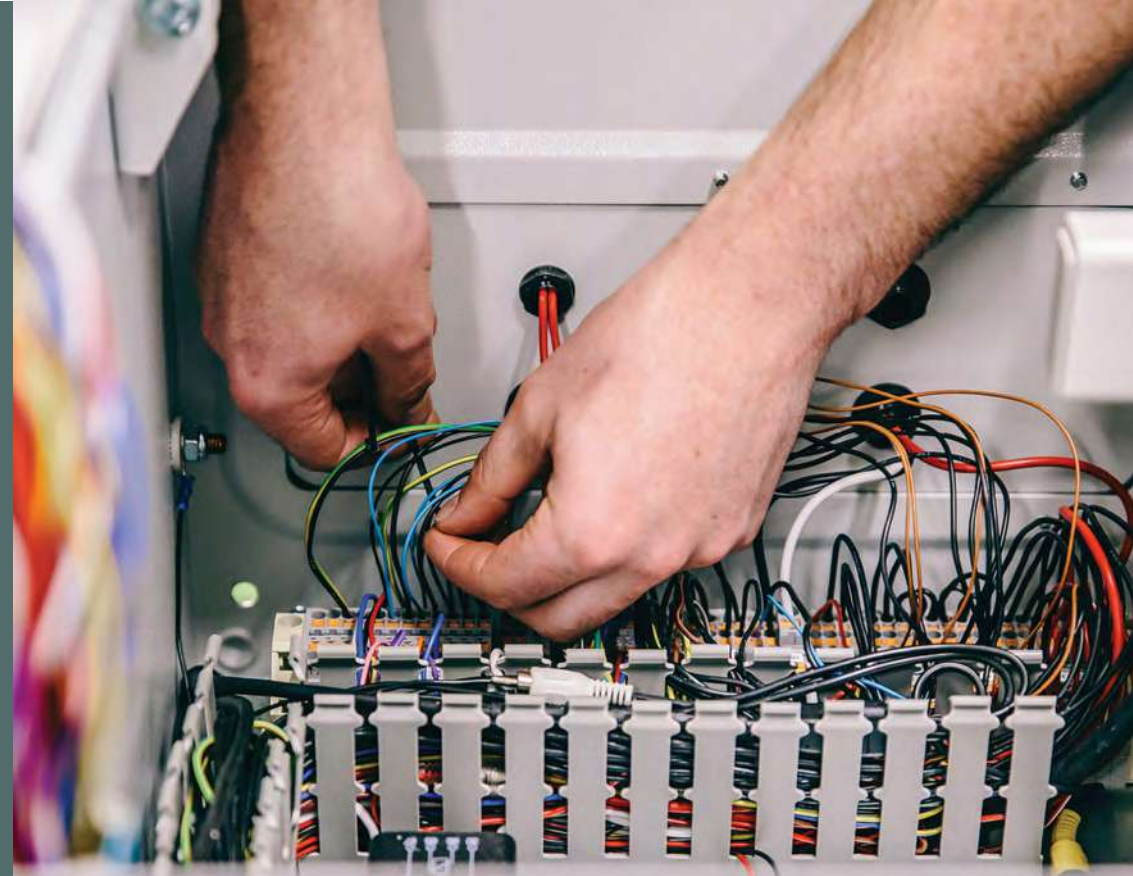
What I do?

As an Electrical Apprentice, Keegan's main responsibilities include to:

- Wire-up, test and install new electrical systems for winch diggers, grapple systems and camera systems
- Repair and maintain electrical components of existing gear
- Utilise technology and programmes that control electrical systems
- Complete research and development (R+D) for new projects and products including design, install and testing

Where to start:

I worked for the company while I was at school as an after-school job, then I took a full-time job here while doing my gap year. While I was considering going to university, I was offered and took this opportunity to complete my apprenticeship. The thing I enjoy most about my job is the safety aspect of what our products offer, improving safety in the forest. The innovation side of my work is really interesting as well, with the opportunity to get involved in R+D for new products.



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Next steps

Check out these roles in Technology at www.forestrycareers.nz/forestry-careers or scan the QR code to find out more



EXPORT & INTERNATIONAL MARKETS

Putting NZ Forestry on the world stage

Matthew Foley Health and Safety Coordinator for DG Glenn



What I do?

As a Health and Safety Coordinator, Matt's key responsibilities are:

- Handling all daily incident reporting and investigation requirements, both minor and serious
- Conduct health and safety meetings for foremen and workers
- Attending monthly forest principal contractor meetings
- Daily monitoring and compliance of activities for Forest Principals
- Supervising log truck trailer lifting operation at Napier Port
- Completing follow-ups and action points from any audits
- Collating monthly data returns for forest principals
- Coordinate company and contractor inductions
- Coordinate company drug testing

Where to start:

I first went farming for 4 years, and the farm had a small woodlot which I experienced being harvested. Initially I was



“With forestry I could see I would be able to keep working outside, go hunting on the weekends, and get ahead and eventually own a logging business”

drawn to the machinery being used, so I got talking to the contractor. With farming I felt like I was only ever going to be a worker, rather than owning a farm. With forestry, I could see I would be able to keep working outside, go hunting on the weekends, and get ahead with the potential of owning my own business one day. I did a 2-year Diploma of Forestry Management at Waiariki Institute of Technology in Rotorua, to help open some doors. My first job was as an Assistant Operations Manager for a logging contractor in the Coromandel. I gained an all-round experience, cutting my teeth learning practical skills as well as the office-based management side of the business. This set me up for the role I have progressed into now as a Health and Safety Coordinator.

Next steps

Check out these roles in Human Resources and Corporate Management at www.forestrycareers.nz/forestry-careers or scan the QR code to find out more



DOMESTIC PROCESSING & ENGINEERED WOOD PRODUCTS

NZ's most sustainable material

Wiremu Gundersen Mill Hand at Kiwi Lumber



What I do?

As Mill Hand at the Kiwi Lumber sawmill, Wiremu's role involves:

- Operating machinery including the bin runner / stacker
- Completing physical jobs including round table / runner
- Taking responsibility for quality control including the quality of boards milled
- Taking responsibility for personal health and safety
- Taking responsibility for personal output within the production line

Where to start:

I first tried my hand at different types of farming, including sheep and beef, dairy, poultry and even pig farming. I felt like it was time for a change, and there were opportunities at Kiwi Lumber so I went for it. At the sawmill I feel good if we're working as a connected team and hitting our production targets. I try to think about the customer and the quality of the product we're producing. I enjoy on-the-job learning opportunities and it's



“Working in forestry is an opportunity to work outdoors doing an activity you enjoy, where you learn and get paid at the same time – I highly recommend it.”

been a step-up to be self-disciplined and take personal responsibility for health and safety and the lock-out system we operate.

In the future I want to improve my sawmill skills and knowledge, become a qualified dry-mill machinist, and grow my experience working at different sawmill sites.

Next steps

Check out these roles in Processing at www.forestrycareers.nz/forestry-careers or scan the QR code to find out more



FUTURE FORESTERS

The next generation of tree people

Christoph Riedel Forester at Nelson Forests



What I do?

As an Operations Planner (Forester) Christoph's key responsibilities include:

- Planning silviculture operations
- Managing silviculture crews
- Planning helicopter operations
- Maintaining a roading network
- Maintaining firefighting assets within the forest
- Undertaking technical work such as the assessment of forest health, silviculture quality, and harvesting crew's waste

Where to start:

My old man works in timber treatment, so I was exposed to the industry at a young age. Out of college I was lucky to spend some time working for a local forester helping out with genetic trials. The combination of field and office work was a big motivation for me to go and study. I received a scholarship with Nelson Forests who helped me financially and provided me with a variety of holiday work in the industry. I completed my Bachelor of Forestry Science at

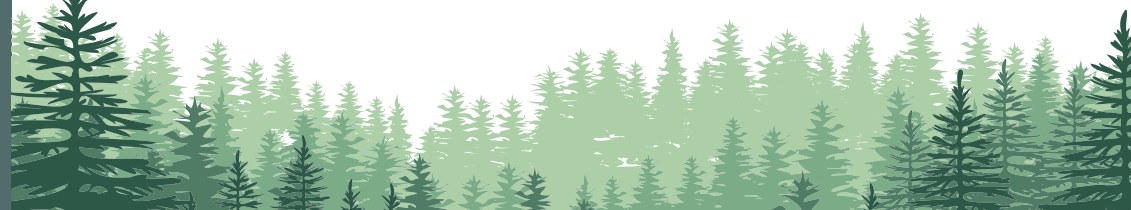


"I really enjoy the challenging technical office-based work, as well as dealing with people out in the field,"

Canterbury University, went through a year-long graduate programme, and have been working as an operations planner for the past year. I really enjoy the challenging technical office-based work, as well as working with people out in the field. I love the time I get to work in the bush, and a definite perk of the job is the access to good hunting blocks. My advice to future generations considering the industry is to talk to as many people in the industry as you can, look up future foresters, and apply for the many industry scholarships available to people getting into the industry or going to study forestry.

Next steps

Check out these roles in Forest and Company Management at www.forestrycareers.nz/forestry-careers or scan the QR code to find out more



EARTHWORKS & ENGINEERING

Paving the way to the future

Will Ching Machine Operator at Taylors Contracting



What I do?

As a Machine Operator in forestry earthworks, Will's key responsibilities include:

- Operating machinery including the bulldozer, digger and grader
- Undertaking earthworks as per the roading infrastructure plans
- Taking responsibility for personal health and safety
- Operating in an environmentally friendly way
- Ensuring each job meets client expectations

Where to start:

My family worked in forestry and civil earthworks, so I've always been around machinery. When I left school, I started working in civil earthworks, before moving into forestry earthworks. I've been doing it for about 10 years, and I've got my wheel tracks and rollers ticket and a heavy machinery trade licence. Ongoing training has been supported by Taylors Contracting and I am currently



"The best thing about my job is I'm out there in the forest doing it, taking responsibility and managing myself."

working on the NZ Certificate in Infrastructure Single Site Supervisor qualification. The best thing about my job is I'm out there in the forest doing it, taking responsibility and managing myself. I get to move dirt and build skids, roads and tracks while I explore the country. I'm away from the chaos, so it's a pretty cool place to be.

Next steps

Check out these roles in Forestry Engineering at www.forestrycareers.nz/forestry-careers or scan the QR code to find out more



WOMEN IN FORESTRY

Women making the impact in forestry

Racheal Stratford Quality Controller at Cox's Harvesting

What I do?

As a member of a Ground Base Harvesting Crew, Rachael's key responsibilities are:

- Overseeing quality control of logs harvested
- Adjusting logs with her chainsaw to ensure they are the correct length for the grade
- Checking for kinks in the logs and tidying / adjusting them or re-grading them as necessary
- Ensuring the quality of every log harvested meets the requirements of the buyer
- Stepping in to operate the loader as needed, utilising her Loader's Ticket qualification

Where to start:

I left school at 16 and enrolled in the one-year Certificate in Forestry Harvesting Level 2 and 3 course at Te Wananga O Aotearoa. After 6 months I got a job offer to join a crew and I've been here since. I really love the feeling of working hard and giving things a crack. Longer term, I want to be an allrounder in the crew,



"I really love the feeling of working hard and giving things a crack."

having the ability to do multiple things. I'm interested in doing more tree falling and learning about breaking-out. My advice to other females is you never know until you try, so don't listen to what anyone else has to say about the gender role. Have the right attitude, be really keen to learn, and pay attention when someone's teaching you.

Next steps

Check out these roles in Harvesting at www.forestrycareers.nz/forestry-careers or scan the QR code to find out more



TRANSPORT - SHARE THE ROAD

The roads are big enough for us all

Glenn Coulbeck Transporter Driver at DGT



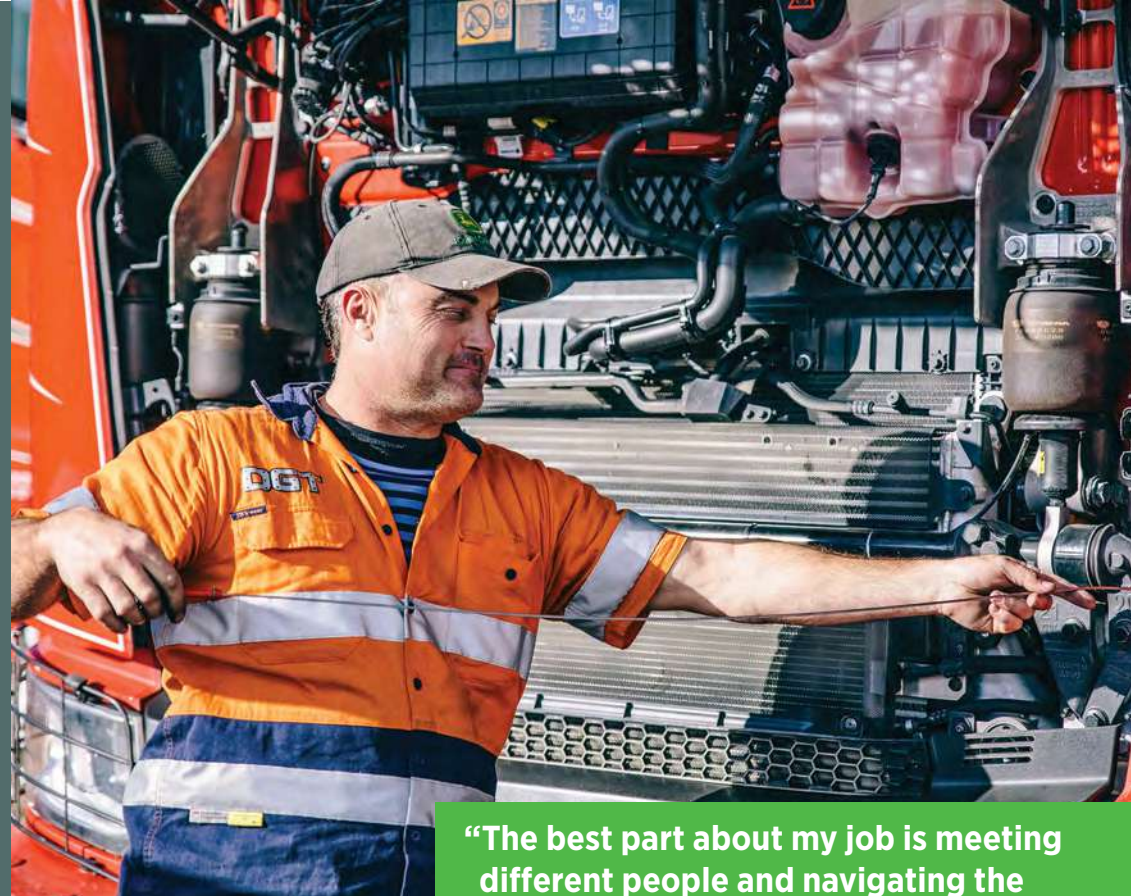
What I do?

As a Transporter Driver, Glenn's main responsibilities include:

- Loading, shifting and unloading a range of forestry equipment and machinery from haulers to bulldozers
- Navigating forestry roads and access to various parts of the forest
- Considering technical aspects of the role including weights, bridges, forest access and safety

Where to start:

Machinery has always been a passion of mine, and I have pretty much driven one type of machinery or another for my whole life. I've been with DGT for the past 7 years and driving transporters for 4. Before that I was driving livestock trucks and was looking for a change of lifestyle when this opportunity popped up. I really enjoy all the different people I get to meet, and the challenge of navigating and accessing the hard to reach places in the forest. Plus, I have an



"The best part about my job is meeting different people and navigating the tricky places we get to go to."

awesome view from my office! The forestry industry has good people to work with and there's a real community feel with the wider families.

Next steps

Check out these roles in Transport at www.forestrycareers.nz/forestry-careers or scan the QR code to find out more



1BT & ETS FARM FORESTRY

Improving our world one tree at a time

Nathan Baird Harvest Planner at Hancock Forest Management



What I do?

As a Harvest Planner, Nathan's responsibilities include:

- Harvest mapping – producing operational plans for road line salvage, engineering and harvesting works to be completed in the forest
- Working out locations for where wood is going to be pulled to, skids and roads
- Identifying health and safety considerations, and environmental values / restrictions
- Managing forest stakeholder relationships including iwi groups and recreational groups such as hunting, motorbike, mountain bike, and horse-riding clubs that operate in the forest

Where to start:

I grew up in Tokoroa and went to Victoria Uni to do a Bachelor of Science. I worked in a plotting and silviculture crew when I came back for holidays, then for another year when I graduated. I moved into a harvesting role for the next 10 years, gaining practical experience felling trees and working with various machinery. A



“The best thing about my job in harvest planning is it has a good mix of outdoor time and office work, and it’s flexible around the weather and with work-life balance.”

harvesting supervisor role then came up, so I did that for the next 5 years before moving into harvest planning. I’ve been doing this role for almost 6 years, and the practical experience I gained in other areas of forestry is really helpful. It also makes me more relatable to the other guys working in the forest. The best things about my job are the people you get to work along-side. There are some real characters out there, with plenty of stories to tell (and some might even be true!). Plus, it has a good mix of outdoor time and office work, and it’s flexible around the weather and with work-life balance.

Next steps

Check out these roles in Harvest Management at www.forestrycareers.nz/forestry-careers or scan the QR code to find out more





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