NFI Statistical Analyst

Edinburgh, Scotland
33,636-£36,601
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Forest Research (part of the Forestry Commission)
Closing date: 14 Jul 2019
£33,636-£36,601
Edinburgh, Scotland, EH12 7AT

Forest Research (FR) is a world leader in applied forest science and a trusted and recognised provider of expertise, data, products and services for governments and the tree, wood, forest and natural resource sectors. FR works for many Government departments, all the devolved administrations, and forestry and land management stakeholders, environmental NGO’s and the European Union.

We have approximately 250 people working across a broad range of roles delivering diverse business functions and we are looking for a Statistical Analyst to join our Inventory, Forecasting and Operational Support (IFOS) team which is primarily located in Edinburgh in Scotland.

IFOS run the National Forest Inventory (NFI) which monitors the location, extent and condition of woodlands throughout Great Britain. In the role of NFI Statistical Analyst you will be part of the team that develops statistical and other data analysis methods and systems resulting in the publication of statistical and forecast reports on the woodland across Great Britain. You will also be responsible for developing and implementing the statistical analysis and processing of NFI field survey data. Through your analysis of field survey data, you will be instrumental in establishing pioneering evidence in the fields of woodland biodiversity, woodland habitat condition and social and recreational usage of woodlands. This role will provide key information on the current state of woodland in Great Britain, growth and change of woodlands over time, and on expectations of future timber production from Britain’s forests.

There is a very wide range of statistical tasks and approaches required for this role which will allow many opportunities for skills development. There will be opportunities to liaise with statisticians in the Economics and Statistics Units of the Forestry Commission and to be involved in wider aspects of the
work of the Forestry Commission and Forest Research, including the development and application of empirical models of tree growth. The option to become part of the Government Statistical Service is available and encouraged, as is training and career development.

**Person specification**

- A proven record of analysis of biological data
- A proven record of problem solving and pattern recognition in large and complex data sets.
- Evidence of self-checking and quality assurance
- Experience of working with information in databases.

**Qualifications**

- A degree in statistics or equivalent subject with high numerical content.
- Expert knowledge of statistical software packages (preferably SAS)
- Expert knowledge of MS Excel and competency in the use of other software in the MS Office suite.

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