

Job Opportunity: Technical Forestry Referral Officer

Location: [Nitinaht Lake, BC]

Department: Forestry, Lands and Resource Departments

Position Type: Contract

Application Deadline: November 7th 2025

Position Summary

The **Technical Forestry Referral Officer** plays a key role in supporting the Nation's stewardship of its traditional territory. This position is responsible for reviewing, assessing, and managing forestry-related referrals to ensure all forestry operations align with the Nation's environmental values, Aboriginal rights, and title.

Beyond leading technical forestry reviews, the Officer will help strengthen the Nation's long-term self-determination by mentoring staff, training community members, and sharing forestry knowledge that supports capacity building and sustainable land management.

Key Responsibilities

1. Forestry Referral Review and Technical Assessment

- Receive, review, and respond to forestry referrals and applications (e.g., cutting permits, site plans, road permits, forest stewardship plans).
- Assess potential environmental, cultural, and social impacts of proposed forestry activities.
- Prepare technical assessments, maps, and written responses that reflect the Nation's position and priorities.
- Conduct field inspections to verify site conditions and ensure environmental and cultural standards are met.
- Provide recommendations for acceptance, modification, or rejection of proposed activities based on findings.

Qualifications:

- Registered Professional Forester (RPF) designation or equivalent is an asset but not required for the right candidate.
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2. Consultation and Engagement

- Represent the Nation in meetings with forestry licensees, industry partners, and government agencies (e.g., Ministry of Forests).
 - Support consultation processes under **BC's Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA)** and the **Environmental Assessment Act**.
 - Facilitate respectful dialogue between proponents and the Nation to ensure appropriate and effective accommodation measures.
 - Communicate forestry issues clearly to leadership, Elders, and community members.
 - Participate in regional forestry working groups, technical committees, and partnership forums.
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3. Capacity Building, Mentorship, and Training

- Mentor Lands and Resources Department staff and trainees in forestry principles, referral review, and field techniques.

- Develop and deliver practical workshops on forestry topics such as forest health, harvest planning, mapping, and site assessment.
 - Support the development of community-based forest monitors, guardians, or youth trainees.
 - Collaborate with educational institutions and partners to create training pathways for Nation members.
 - Document and share best practices for integrating traditional knowledge into forestry management.
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4. Coordination, Record Keeping, and Reporting

- Maintain accurate tracking of all forestry referrals, responses, and correspondence.
 - Contribute to improving internal referral management systems, templates, and databases.
 - Work collaboratively with other departments (e.g., Culture & Heritage, Fisheries, Wildlife, Guardians) for integrated resource management.
 - Provide regular updates and reports to Lands & Resources leadership and Chief & Council.
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Working Conditions

- Combination of office-based work at [insert location, e.g., IR #15 Sort Yard] and frequent fieldwork within the Nation's territory.
 - Travel to remote sites under varying weather and terrain conditions.
 - Participation in community meetings, Council sessions, and training events (may include evenings or weekends).
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How to Apply

Please submit your **cover letter** outlining your relevant experience and interest in this position to:

 ecdev@nitinaht.ca

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