



Jacob among old growth Douglas fir in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest



Jacob Sullivan
Silviculture Forester
Port Blakely

TYPE OF WORK

I establish forest plantations after harvest and ensure desired stocking levels are maintained as the plantation grows.



TYPICAL DAY: I start early to get to the work site just after sunrise in order to prepare measuring tools and gear for the day's work. I spend the majority of my time outside collecting data on plantation inventory. I also work with contractors to ensure that they are following project specifications. When I'm in the office, I update Geographic Information System (GIS) data and plan upcoming thinning projects to remove invasive and overstocked species to maintain desired stocking levels of plantation trees.

CAREER PATHWAY:

I graduated from Western Washington University with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies. After graduation, I moved to Texas to work as a field technician for a Texas A&M graduate student collecting data to update the range map and habitat model for two endangered bird species. Next, I spent four years working as a timber cruiser collecting forest inventory data. I wanted to learn more about forestry and found this silviculture forester position at Port Blakely.



IMPORTANT SKILLS

Knowledge of landscape ecology and plant biology, basic mathematics, and understanding of Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree

SALARY RANGE

\$50,000-\$74,999

TOOLS OF THE TRADE

Range finder, relascope, clinometer, compass, loggers tape, tree borer, GIS maps, supportive and waterproof footwear,

"I love working outdoors and growing a useful product in a beautiful landscape."

- Jacob Sullivan