



A forester examines the growth, function, health, and management of trees.

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Important Scientist Characteristics:

Every scientist will encounter obstacles during the research process. Some might struggle with statistics, while others struggle with writing or presentations. A curious mind and enthusiasm for the work are most important in helping overcome these challenges.

Example of a simple research question I have tried to answer: How are the forests in a particular area changing? By comparing past and present Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) data, I was able to determine if, and how, the forest changed.

Technology or equipment used in research:

I frequently use databases for my work with FIA. A database is a collection of related data organized for convenient access, generally in a computer.

Most Exciting Discovery

In one data evaluation, I was able to track the effects of a major drought on the forests in the area affected.

When did you know you wanted to be a scientist?

I always enjoyed science classes in school, and I thought I might want to become a scientist. I also always loved trees and the outdoors, so forestry science was a perfect fit.