



Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation

Consulting Forester Directory 2025



This list is provided as a public service by the Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation (DNRC). Inclusion on this list does not imply endorsement by the DNRC, nor does exclusion imply censure. Inclusion in this list is voluntary, and the information provided is submitted by the individuals or firms. The DNRC does not verify the information provided. Persons seeking the services of a Consultant Forester are encouraged to check references.

This list will be updated every 6 months with the beginning of the New Year. If you would like to be included in the next directory, please contact Ashley Machus at Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Forestry Assistance Bureau by phone at 406-542-4246 or by email at ashley.machus@mt.gov.

2025 Consulting Forester List

February 18, 2025

Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation – Consulting Forester Directory

A forester can assist private landowners in managing their forest to meet both their short and long-term goals & objectives. Consulting Forestry services may include assistance with writing a management plan, harvesting timber, improving wildlife habitat, property mapping, or other areas of expertise. Montana DNRC's Directory of Consulting Foresters provides contact information for consulting and mill foresters as a public service. All information is provided by the professional foresters themselves and the DNRC does not verify the information provided. When hiring a forester, DNRC suggests contacting several foresters and ask for references, education and certifications, and work experience. Professional foresters should be able to provide documented work experience and education upon request. Below are definitions for consulting, mill, and DNRC Service Foresters.

Consulting Forester

Consulting foresters are independent professionals who provide expert forest management services to private landowners. Consulting foresters can help forest landowners with writing a management plan, selling timber, habitat management, and other forest management activities. Typically consulting foresters have at least a 2-year degree, or more commonly a 4-year+ degree, in forestry or a related field.

Mill Forester

Mill foresters are listed on page 4 of this document. Mill foresters work for forest products mills and primarily purchase timber for their mill but also may provide forest management assistance to private landowners in other areas as part of the timber sale, or separately. Mills may have multiple foresters so contact information provided is for the mill company, who can connect you to a mill forester that fits your needs.

DNRC Service Foresters

Montana DNRC has Service Foresters located in offices across Montana that are available for free private landowner assistance. Service Foresters will not be able to dedicate as much one-on-one time as consulting or mill foresters but can provide expertise on a variety of topics and connect landowners to specialists and programs that fit their needs. For an initial consultation, Service Foresters generally limit their time to a few hours per ownership. Find your local DNRC Service Forester at www.dnrc.mt.gov/serviceforestry.

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Consulting Foresters

Company / Contact	Territory	Phone Number	Email and Website	Education & Years of Experience
American Forest Management	All Montana	406-291-1375	Nicole.porter@afmforest.com https://www.americanforestmanagement.com/	Education: Bachelor's Years of Experience: 20+
Betty Kuropat	Western Montana	406-250-8156	blueirismt@gmail.com	Education: Master's Years of Experience: 20 +
Don Feist	Western Montana	406-210-7553	feisty@blackfoot.net	Education: Bachelor's Years of Experience: 20+
Eric Hoberg	All Montana	406-830-4918	qualityforestmanagement@gmail.com https://qfmmt.com	Education: Bachelor's Years of Experience: 10-20
Jennifer Nelson	Western Montana	406-334-3707	jnelson406@gmail.com	Education: Master's Years of Experience: 20+
John Ottman Ottman Forestry Consultants	Western Montana	406-240-7179	Johnottman75@gmail.com https://sites.google.com/site/ottmanforestryconsultants/	Education: Bachelor's Years of Experience: 20+
Josiah Denham Westslope Forest Management	Western & Central Montana	406-241-4161	josiah@westslopeforestmanagement.com https://westslopeforestmanagement.com/	Education: Bachelor's Years of Experience: 10-20
Montana Forest Consultants, Inc.	All Montana	406-369-5162	contact@mtforests.com https://mtforests.com/	Education: Master's Years of Experience: 20+

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Northwest Rural Management	Central Montana	208-553-8466	forestologist@gmail.com northwestrurallandmanagement.com	Education: Bachelor's Years of Experience: 20+
Thomas Perry	Western Montana	406-880-2381	tom@tptrees.com https://tptrees.com	Education: Master's Years of Experience: 20+
Trees for Life	Flathead Valley	406-212-9872	office@treesforlifemt.com https://www.TressForLifeMT.com	Education: 2-year degree Experience: 10-20 years

2024 Consulting Forester List

August 8th, 2024

Mill Foresters

Mill Company	Location	Phone	Email and Website
F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber	Columbia Falls, MT	406-892-7000	cwohlschlegel@stoltzelumber.com https://www.stoltzelumber.com/
Idaho Forest Group	Idaho, serving western MT	208-495-4380	https://ifg.com/timber/forestry-contacts/ https://ifg.com/
Sun Mountain Lumber	Deer Lodge, MT Livingston, MT	406-846-9460 406-222-3360	info@sunmountainlumber.com https://sunmtnlumber.com/
Thompson River Lumber	Thompson Falls, MT	406-827-4311	shawn@thompsonriver.net cody@thompsonriver.net https://www.thompsonriverlumber.com/
Weyerhaeuser	Kalispell, MT	406-751-1215	https://www.weyerhaeuser.com/