

Just the Job

Information Sheet

Job title:

Cable Harvesting Operator

Job description:

A Cable Harvesting Operator uses wire cable systems to get trees from steep or difficult areas. Various systems of wire ropes, blocks and travelling carriages are used to lift trees from deep valleys or across streams. Cable harvesting operators are skilled in designing and using the systems to get the trees in the most efficient way and keep environmental damage to a minimum.

Qualifications required:

NCEA Level 1 (or equivalent) Maths and English are seen as an advantage by most employers.

Training costs:

The main cost is attendance on block courses and costs associated with Unit Standard Assessment when conducting an Apprenticeship/Traineeship. Both these costs are usually borne by the employer. As such the cost to an Apprentice is the effort required to successfully complete the training to ensure their employer's outlay is rewarded.

Location of job:

Cable Harvesting Operators are employed as part of a Harvesting crew and can be located Nationwide where any major Forest Harvesting Operations occur.

The main areas are Northland, Central North Island, East Coast North Island, Nelson/Marlborough and Otago/Southland.

Career path:

Most forestry workers start off as a Skid Worker within a Harvesting crew. General skills across range of jobs are generally gained at a basic level within the first few years. Once they start progressing through the National Qualifications, they start to specialise within a particular field, such as Cable Harvesting Operator.

Once a Level 4 Qualification has been gained, in conjunction with relevant industry experience, it can be taken further branching more into the management side of operations.

Salary range:

Wages start from \$28 - 35,000 (dependant on skills, experience, hours worked etc). These could rise after 3-4 years to \$40 -60,000.

Other careers this profession could lead to:**CREW SUPERVISOR**

Manages a crew of workers and is often responsible for work and product quality, training, and health and safety.

FORESTRY CONTRACTOR

Usually employed by a forest owner and is responsible for all aspects of the business including financial management, contract negotiation, quality control, training, health and safety and workforce development. This role includes the management of forestry as a business, an area covered by the Level 5 National Certificate in Forestry.

These are higher level jobs available after Level 4 qualifications have been achieved. There are a range of management roles at higher levels also.

Tips on how to increase the chances of successfully entering this industry:

As well as school qualifications, Employers also look for:

- § Proven work habits
- § Positive attitude and motivation to achieve and improve work skills
- § Mental and physical ability
- § Physical fitness
- § Willingness to do further training

You can improve your chances of getting a job and your career prospects by having school qualifications and a good employment history, even in after-school or holiday jobs.

Websites to source information about this job:

www.woodcareers.co.nz