

Meet

Sean Ross

Forester

Age: 36

Current Hometown:
Lebanon, NH

Other Jobs Held:
truck driver, ski
instructor, landscaper,
painter

Hobbies/Interests:
my children, fishing,
canoeing, hiking, skiing

Strengths:
good listener and
communicator,
teacher, quick learner,
problem solver



photo: Geoff Hansen

How do you use your strengths in your job?

I need to be able to think on my feet and make quick decisions because every day is different. I deal with people who have diverse backgrounds (landowners, loggers, mill managers, investors, state officials, other foresters), so it helps that I am able to communicate effectively and respect varied opinions.

What was your biggest learning challenge in school?

In school I always struggled with connecting how some of what we were being taught would help me in the “real world.” If information wasn’t relevant to me at the time, I would lose interest and not pay as much attention as I should have.

What motivates you to go to work?

Two things motivate me. First, the adventure of traveling to new places and being out on large, remote tracts of forestland. And second, knowing that the decisions I make not only protect and conserve our forest, water, air quality and wildlife habitat today, but will benefit future generations as well.

Every job has specific skills. What do you need in yours?

Forestry is an art, a science and a business all in one. Analytical and mathematical skills, creativity and vision are essential. I am continually learning in my job, so it is also important that I am a good observer and that I can adapt to change. Lastly, it is helpful to have patience — trees take a long time to grow.

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