

## 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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