



BOYD MCLAURIN

Vice President of Operations
Canal Wood LLC.

SCHOOL

Forest Management
SE Community College

FAVORITE PART OF THE JOB

"I like working with loggers and the challenges of building, creating, and financing crews from the ground up."

WHY FORESTRY?

"My father owned a farm chemical business and introduced me to the agriculture industry. After high school, I scored high in communications on a career aptitude test. My father suggested I look into the forestry program at my local community college. At Canal, I am fortunate to work for strong leaders like Dennis Stone. He encourages me to become more active and engaged in the forest products industry."

ADVICE

"Network and make connections with as many people as you can early in your career. These relationships can last a lifetime."



OPERATIONS

OPERATIONS MANAGERS DIRECT THE GENERAL ACTIVITIES, EMPLOYEES, AND PARTNERSHIPS OF AN ORGANIZATION. THEY OVERSEE PRODUCTION AND INCREASE EFFICIENCIES.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Identify and research new opportunities that allow company to expand in order to take advantage of new and changing markets
- Lead and mentor employees
- Assess and analyze contracts, budgets, and workflow processes
- Serve as liaison for the Board of Directors and communicate with stakeholders about company projects
- Coordinate and manage in field workers, including professionals such as loggers, foresters, timber buyers, and truck drivers
- Oversee financials and assets of the company
- Develop a long-term plan that furthers company goals and investments

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

- Bachelor's or Associate's degree in forest management
 - Level of education will be dependent on program
- Working experience within the community or industry is beneficial

AVERAGE SALARY

- National average of leadership positions is \$100,000+ (reported by Glassdoor.com) Variation in data, dependent on experience/organization

SKILLS NEEDED

- Self-motivated
- Strong communication skills with ability to work and listen to diverse audiences
- Open to new opportunities



photos by B. McLaurin and NCFA