

Manager, Funds Accounting

Location: Sydney, Australia

Reporting to: Financial Controller, Funds Accounting

New Forests (www.newforests.com) seeks a qualified candidate for the position of Manager, Funds Accounting. As part of our Finance team, you will be primarily responsible for managing the team responsible for all fund related accounting and assisting with client reporting. This is a hands-on role, ideal for a professional looking for an exciting challenge.

This finance leadership role is pivotal to the continued success and the continued growth and development of the fund accounting team. This role will lead and support the fund accounting team to deliver excellence, high quality reporting and provide continuous finance leadership to the operations and investment management business.

The Company

New Forests is a global investment manager of nature-based real assets and natural capital strategies, with AUD 10.73 billion (USD 7.3 billion) in assets under management across more than 1.2 million hectares (3.14 million acres) of investments. We manage a diversified portfolio of sustainable timber plantations and conservation areas, carbon and conservation finance projects, agriculture, timber processing and infrastructure. We aim to generate shared prosperity for our clients and the communities in which we operate and accelerate the transition to a sustainable future.

Responsibilities:

- Review of and preparation of monthly, quarterly and annual fund, investor and board level reporting
- General review of work performed by fund accounting team members
- Coaching and mentoring direct reports to drive performance and engagement, by setting clear goals and expectations and providing appropriate support and recognition
- Guiding all team members throughout the employee lifecycle, promoting an inclusive culture and driving development opportunity, capability and career growth
- Supporting the Investments team in Acquisitions and Disposals of assets
- Supporting the Financial Controller, Fund Accounting by preparing process documentation, driving improvement and standardisation initiatives within the team
- Annual financial statement preparation and management of the year end audit process including documenting technical accounting positions and board memos
- Managing the budgeting and forecasting process annually and quarterly reforecasting
- Managing all month-end processes, treasury and tax for various fund entities
- Calculating quarterly distributions from sub-trusts and dividends from companies to head trusts and investors
- Preparation of quarterly distribution statements and monthly investor statements
- Assisting with performance and return data reporting (quarterly and annually for alternative assets)
- Managing relationships and reporting to external investors and boards
- Liaising with external property managers to ensure asset level reporting is complete and accurate
- Completing ad-hoc financial analysis for both internal and external stakeholders
- Liaising with Investor Relations team to complete investor reports
- Special projects (including process improvement, new reports, acquisitions and disposals for funds and separate mandates)

New Forests Asset Management Pty Ltd

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- Evaluating, improving and streamlining reporting, finance and operations processes and increasing automation
- Being the lead contributor to the Fund Consolidations project, Data warehouse project and Enterprise Management System implementation project

We are looking for candidates with the below qualifications and experience:

- Undergraduate and/ or postgraduate degree in Accounting/Business or Finance
- Qualified CA or CPA
- Chartered accounting firm experience desirable
- Experience with private equity or real assets experience preferred
- An understanding of trust distributions and taxation
- Detailed understanding of Australian Accounting Standards
- Advanced Excel skills
- Experience operating at Manager level within an international institutional investment management business (public or private) or a similar business environment dealing with institutional clients
- Demonstrated experience in working at a senior level and leading in a finance function with responsibility for all aspects of fund accounting operations, including acquisition and sale transactions, statutory and regulatory reporting requirements and ensuring the integrity of the fund's financial data
- Strong financial acumen and experience reporting to stakeholders
- Ability to work across all aspects of finance (audit, tax, treasury, financial reporting, budgeting and forecasting, asset level reporting etc.) in addition to providing support on operational and strategic initiatives
- Experience and a genuine passion for sustainable and/or responsible investment would be highly regarded
- Demonstration of process improvement/re-engineering to improve efficiency and effectiveness
- Enterprise-wide system upgrade or new finance system implementation experience
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Superior attention to detail
- Planning mindset complimented by organization, prioritisation and documentation skills
- The ability to give and receive constructive feedback in a timely, respectful and effective manner
- Ability to shape a proactive and positive performance culture
- Ability to adapt to change quickly and effectively; ability to manage, business-as-usual and ad-hoc activities
- Capable of maintaining positive, supportive and calm demeanour during busy periods

What can we offer?

Our environment is busy and supportive, and the team is professional but relaxed. If you join us, you would be joining a growing, fast paced business which is an environmental and sustainable leader in forestry investment. You will also be working with professionals who are passionate about their work!

We pride ourselves on having a supportive New Forests culture that is inclusive to all and we would love to learn how you can bring your unique skills and experience to our business. If you have experience in any of these areas, we encourage you to apply for our roles, even if you only meet some of the criteria.

To apply, please provide your resume and cover letter, explaining your interest and qualifications for the position, in PDF format, to careers@newforests.com.au

Phone calls will not be accepted.

New Forests is a Certified B Corp and an Equal Opportunity Employer that values diversity and inclusion. We offer flexible working arrangements to all employees to support their work/life balance.