Position Description

Position business title	**ECONOMIST (LAND USE ECONOMICS AND CLIMATE)**
Role classification	**SCIENCE**
Band	
Reports to	**RESEARCH LEADER – ENABLING ENVIRONMENTS**
Purpose of position	To deliver world leading research into quantitative economics, delivering policy-relevant outcomes for government agencies and primary sector business activity. To lead quantitative economic research on the bioeconomy, focusing on forestry and related land-uses. To evaluate the required drivers of systems change towards a circular bioeconomy (e.g. analyses of profitability, resource efficiencies, logistics), focusing on the range of benefits from forests, forest products, bioenergy, bioproducts, and alternative land-use options. To promote forestry and related land-uses through quantitative economic research that supports systems-thinking around the emergence and growth of the bio-economy in New Zealand. To drive thought-leadership within Scion's Land Use Economics and Climate team.
Key focus areas	• Conduct quantitative economic research concerning a range of government environmental policy and primary sector performance areas. • Deliver high quality science leading to the evaluation and reporting of drivers of system change, focusing on forests, forest products, bioenergy, bioproducts and land use. • Contribute to better decision making in support of the rise of the bioeconomy and associated land-use change, coupled with climate change risk and adaptation analyses. • Promote the uptake of research into national and international policy, via engagement with government and international stakeholders • Facilitate thought-leadership within a vibrant and exciting environmental policy and quantitative economics team.
Responsibilities	Research and development • Lead quantitative economic research within a multi-disciplinary team to support key areas of Scion's strategic Impact Areas. • Lead the development of technical analysis within forestry focused research programmes, including optimisation of forest portfolios, via e.g. probabilistic price simulation modelling, computable general equilibrium (CGE) modelling and liaison with forest growers, Iwi and Government.

- Evaluate risks, opportunities and bottlenecks associated with transitioning to a forest-growth bio-economy through a quantitative economic appraisal, via a case-study approach with reporting back to an international forum.
- Lead the development of integrated research, linking spatial accounting of Ecosystem Service flows and Natural Capital assessment, to the valuing and payments derived from- a range of present- and future forest types.
- Contribute to and leading economic analyses of new bioenergy systems and their role in the bio-economy.

Science

- Deliver quantitative economic research within a high-calibre multi-disciplinary team to support key areas of Scion's strategic Impact Areas.
- Conduct business model analyses of new forest systems and novel value chains.
- Collaborate with specialist team members to integrate economic modeling analyses with models of human behavior (e.g. agent-based modelling), value-chain models, spatial ecosystem service models and risk frameworks for climate change.
- Lead and prepare related manuscripts for submission to leading international journals.
- Lead and contribute to the development of competitive funding proposals for large multi-year research programmes.
- Lead projects to ensure requirements of funding contracts are met, including effective oversight and project-management of people, resources and project deliverables.

Thought leadership

- Engage with the latest thinking and direction in quantitative economics, regarding to the rise of the bioeconomy and associated land-use change, integrating this with an understanding of climate change risk and adaptation frameworks.
- Facilitate and contribute to decision making regarding climate change risk and adaptation, the rise of the bio-economy, and associated land-use change.
- Facilitate collaborative thought leadership between quantitative economic research themes, linking climate change, bio-economy and associated land use with value chain optimisation.

Collaboration and networking

- Work collaboratively within and across Scion's team to meet standards of excellence, project deliverables and science outcomes.
- Practice positive team dynamics to contribute to and support a healthy team culture.
- Develop collaborative relationships with key stakeholders through pro-active relationship engagement, information transfer and the identification of new opportunities and collaborations.

	• Develop national and international relationships and collaborations in the interests of research and development opportunities. • Act as an ambassador of Scion on the national & international stage to maintain and develop the reputation of research & development relevant to specialty.
Information Management	• Ensure that all information created or received in the course of your work is kept in the right place, properly named and is appropriately stored and available to other staff in accordance with Scion's Information Management policies, standards and guidelines.
Health, Safety and Wellbeing	• Engage, participate, and contribute in the development of a safe and healthy workplace • Be familiar with and adhere to Scion OHS policies, procedures, and practices • Take reasonable care to ensure own safety and the health and safety of others, and to abide by our duty of care for all workers. • Report any injury, hazards, or illness immediately where practical.
Qualifications	A PhD in Economics or related discipline with a focus on areas such as: quantitative economic modelling, systems thinking, resource economics, environmental economics, policy development and analysis.
Knowledge, skills, and experience required for success	Key competencies include: • An excellent understanding and/or working knowledge of areas including: econometrics, risk modelling, ecosystem service valuation methods, land-use optimisation tools, decision-making and climate change adaptation. • Experience in systems thinking and policy-relevant analysis. • A proven track record in delivering high quality science publications. • An understanding of the policy and regulatory environment facing the forestry and bio-economy sectors, especially relating to climate change and mitigation. • At least five years' experience in a relevant research environment. • Proven leadership experience in the delivery of research programmes, projects and dynamic teams. • Proven experience working with agency leaders, end-users and clients. • A capacity to develop and maintain effective external relationships with Māori leaders and entities. • International experience and networks in the relevant research areas. • An excellent knowledge of the New Zealand and international, forestry and bio-economy sectors. • A proven track record in revenue generation and project delivery. • Outstanding communication and writing skills.

	• A passion for innovation and impact. • A clear commitment to academic excellence. • Highly collaborative and client focused behaviours.
Relationships / Key stakeholders	Internal: Highly matrixed across much of Scion's activity.Including: Relevant Executive Managers, Science and Project Leaders. External: Government Departments (MPI, TUR MfE, DOC, MFAT etc.), Regional and Local Authorities, other research providers (National Science Challenges, CRIs, Universities) and iwi.
Financial Accountability	Staff budgets: defined by tasks and projects Project budgets: defined by tasks and projects Capex: defined by tasks and projects
Direct Reports	None

Our Values:

Office use: example	
HRIS Job title:	Economist
Job Classification:	Science
Job Family:	Forest systems
Sub Family:	Scientist
Position:	Scientist level 3
Tier:	
Division:	COO
Team: (In which this position will reside)	Enabling environments
Org Unit: (the sub unit of the team)	Land use economics and climate

Refer the Standardised Job Classification list for details when allocation of the classification and family. No new classification or family to be added to the standardised list unless approved by the GM PCS.

Details to the Job Classifications, Tiers, etc. to be found on the People & Culture Treehouse page.