Forest and Agroforestry Systems Modeler  
Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory  
Contact: Keith Paustian and Mark Easter (mark.easter@colostate.edu, 970.491.1098)

The Natural Resource Ecology Lab at Colorado State University seeks to hire a forest/agroforestry systems modeler to work on the integration of the USDA Forest Vegetation Simulator (FVS) into the USDA/NRCS COMET-Farm entity-level greenhouse gas inventory system. This position involves working with scientists at Colorado State University, the U.S. Forest Service and elsewhere to update the Forest Service “Green Book” (Smith, J.E. et al. 2006, Methods for calculating forest ecosystem and harvested carbon with standard estimates for forest types of the United States) to reflect new forest management methods and integrate improved forest carbon stock models into the document. Updated data from the effort will be integrated into the Forestry module of the COMET-Farm tool. The position will also involve working with software developers at Colorado State University to develop a method to run the Forest Service Forest Vegetation Simulator (FVS) model within the COMET-Farm Forestry Module, to implement the large landowner component of the USDA’s entity-level greenhouse gas inventory methods (Eve, M. et al. (Eds). 2014. Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Fluxes in Agriculture and Forestry: Methods for Entity-Scale Inventory. USDA Technical Bulletin 1939). The position has the potential to extend here at CSU into additional forestry and wildfire modeling work for the Bioenergy Alliance of the Rockies (BANR).

The successful candidate will have at least a B.S. or B.A. in Forestry, Forest Science, Soil Science, Biology, Ecology, Natural Resources Management or a related field. An M.Sc. or M.A. in a related field is desired. Experience with forest inventory methods along with forest stand and biomass modeling using the USFS Forest Vegetation Simulator (FVS) model is required. Excellent written and verbal communication skills are required.

The term of the project is limited by available funding, beginning as soon as possible and continuing for one year, with potential extensions on a year-by-year basis depending on work performance and available funding. The successful candidate would be initially hired as an hourly employee for $22-$28/hour, depending on experience, with the potential to extend into a salaried position as a CSU Research Associate. The work schedule is flexible.

To apply, contact Mark Easter at the contact links above.

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