Position #: 2016-007

Influence of harvest gaps on the development of natural pine-hardwood stands

School of Forestry & Natural Resources, University of Arkansas at Monticello

The School of Forestry & Natural Resources at the University of Arkansas at Monticello is seeking applicants for a M.S. Assistantship available beginning August 16, 2016. The assistantship is half time and carries an annual stipend of $15,000 plus tuition.

Project: This project will build on a study established nearly 25 years ago to evaluate the influence of harvest gap size on the development of pine and hardwood stands of the Upper West Gulf Coastal Plain. The MS student will investigate several areas of research related to the creation of harvest gaps as part of her/his thesis, including: 1) development of vegetation within gaps over a quarter century, 2) determination of the extent of a gap’s influence on the surrounding mature forest, and 3) assessment of the competitive status of pine (loblolly pine and shortleaf pine) and hardwood (mainly oak species, sweetgum, and red maple) regeneration across sub-stand gradients in canopy cover and sunlight. The primary location of this study is the Crossett Experimental Forest in Southeast Arkansas (USDA Forest Service-Southern Research Station). However, additional sites may be included.

Requirements: Applicants must have a 2.7 overall undergraduate GPA or 3.0 GPA in the last 60 semester hours of undergraduate courses and satisfactory GRE scores. A B.S. degree in a natural resources-related field is also required. Applicants must have a valid U.S. driver’s license or obtain the same within 60 days of starting employment. Overnight travel is required as well as the ability to work outdoors in all weather conditions.

Location and Facilities: The School of Forestry & Natural Resources is located in Monticello, Arkansas, in the southeastern portion of the state. The Arkansas Forest Resources Center is also headquartered here, and is administered by the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture. The Arkansas Forest Resources Center is the research and extension arm for forest-based programs within the State. Additionally, the USFS Arkansas Forestry Sciences Lab is located at the School. The School and Center maintain several state-of-the-art laboratories (hydrology, soil, quantitative analysis, silviculture, wildlife ecology & management) available for graduate research and education.

Application & Additional Information: Graduate program and application information can be found at http://www.uamont.edu/sfnr. Applicants must be admitted to the University of Arkansas at Monticello and apply to the School of Forestry & Natural Resources before they can be considered for an assistantship. Applicants must submit all GRE scores, official transcripts, a statement of interests, and three letters of recommendation. Please indicate the position number above on all application materials and inquires. For additional information, please contact:

Dr. Matthew Olson
UAM School of Forestry and Natural Resources/Arkansas Forest Resources Center
(870) 460-1790, olsonm@uamont.edu

The position is available until a qualified applicant is selected.

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