Research Opportunities in Silviculture, Forest Soils, & Site Productivity

Position Type: M.S., Ph.D., Postdoctoral researcher

Where: University of Maine School of Forest Resources (https://forest.umaine.edu/)

Start Date: Fall or Summer 2024

Position Descriptions: Multiple research positions are available with funding from the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the University of Maine's School of Forest Resources. The selected candidate(s) will be part of a collaborative team working to improve available soil data and tools for use in silviculture and forest management decision-making. Specific research questions will be guided by the interests and experience of the final candidate but should relate to one or more of the following topics: the creation of digital soil maps, ecological site classification, field and lab analysis of forest soils, calibration and validation of existing soil mapping models, and/or creation of metrics for evaluating forest site productivity. Positions will be jointly advised by Dr. Nicole Rogers and Dr. Michael Premer. You can learn more about ongoing research in the Silviculture and Forest Management Labs at UMaine here and here.

Research assistantship: This position provides 2 (M.S.) or 3 (Ph.D.) years of funding for a 20 hour/week assistantship, 50% of health insurance paid, and a tuition waiver for the University of Maine. Office space and operating support (e.g., use of a laptop, travel funds) are also included. The M.S. assistantship includes a stipend of $22,666 annually, the Ph.D. assistantship includes a stipend of $26, 666 annually. Postdoctoral salary commensurate with experience.

Qualifications: The ideal candidate will have field and lab skills, experience with soil and tree measurements, familiarity with northeastern US forests, a demonstrated ability to conduct independent research, and strong written and verbal communication skills. Experience with R is desired. The start date is September 2024 with the possibility of preliminary experiments in Summer 2024. For prospective Doctoral students, a Master's degree is strongly encouraged. For Postdoctoral researchers, a Ph.D. in forest science or related field is required.

About the University of Maine School of Forest Resources: (SFR, http://forest.umaine.edu): With almost 90% of the state covered by forest, forest resources are central to Maine's quality of life and economy. The SFR provides essential forestry education and research and is a signature area of the University of Maine. Approximately 60 graduate students are currently enrolled in M.F., M.S., and Ph.D. programs within the SFR. The University has over 11,000 students and is the state's flagship research institution.

To Apply: The position will remain open until filled. Interested applicants should complete the Google Form. Please reach out to Nicole Rogers, nicole.s.rogers@maine.edu, with questions or for additional information.