MS Assistantship in Fire Ecology and Management at SJSU
Want to help understand one of society’s wicked problems and find solutions? Research ecology and/or interdisciplinary fire science at San José State University. Improve basic understanding of fire ecology, and help managers and regulators understand tradeoffs for treatments. MS ecology students with Dr. Kate Wilkin would be in the Biological Sciences Department and participate in the new Wildfire Interdisciplinary Research Center, which was recently awarded a NSF Industry-University Cooperative Research Center (IUCRC). WIRC provides potential internal research funding and interdisciplinary collaborations between ecology and social scientists, climatologists, fire weather, fire behavior modeling, combustion engineer, fire behavior monitoring, and remote sensing.

Potential projects include:
- Home Ignition Zone (HIZ)
- Prescribed fire
- Fuel breaks and evacuation route clearance
- Plant ember production and combustion
- Pyrodiversity
- Youth fire education
- Your research interest

Funding: Funding and tuition stipends may be available through competitive Biology Department teaching positions. Research technician position for $2,000+ for first semester, and potentially for additional semesters. Total funding is dependent on the project, and students will be trained in internal and external grant writing. Competitive internal funding available through the new Wildfire Interdisciplinary Research Center, which is now a NSF Industry-University Cooperative Research Center.

Start date: January or August 2022

Application Process: Interested applicants must apply to the graduate school at San Jose State University using their application. January 2022 applicants must apply by October 1, 2021 and additional support by October 20, 2021. Summer and Fall 2022 applicants must apply by March 1st. Applicants should also email Kate Wilkin (kate.wilkin@sjsu.edu) about their interests in a cover letter and CV well in advance. Review MS Ecology and Evolution program at https://catalog.sjsu.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=2&poid=504

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