Graduate Assistantship in Silviculture and Ecophysiology Available Starting Summer 2020

The University of Maine’s School of Forest Resources is seeking a highly motivated Master’s student to join a research project on the silviculture and ecophysiology of northern white-cedar. Though northern white-cedar is abundant in Maine there are many gaps in our understanding of the management and biology of this important tree species. This project will investigate silvicultural outcomes, as well as the ecophysiological mechanisms for those outcomes. The research will address: (1) impacts of harvesting on lowland northern white-cedar stand structure and composition; and (2) ecophysiology of northern white-cedar trees in harvested and unharvested stands. This project includes field work in central and eastern Maine, and will require travel to remote field sites and some camping. The student will be co-advised by Dr. Laura Kenefic (U.S. Forest Service) and Dr. Jay Wason (University of Maine).

Research assistantship: This position provides a two-year stipend of approximately $21,000 USD/year, 50% of health insurance paid, and a tuition waiver. Operating (including a field assistant) and some travel funds are also available.

Qualifications: The ideal candidate will have field and lab skills, familiarity with forests of the northeastern U.S., a demonstrated ability to conduct independent research, and strong written and verbal communication skills. Start date is June 2020.

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. If interested, send a CV, GRE scores, and statement of your research interests to laura.kenefic@usda.gov and jay.wason@maine.edu

https://forest.umaine.edu/graduate-programs/available-assistantships/