Utah State University's Department of Wildland Resources seeks a PhD student to work on a project evaluating fuel treatment efficacy in reducing risk of high-severity fire and downstream impacts. Project objectives include predicting if and how active fuels management can reduce the risk of wildfire damages to fish habitat and reservoirs, and informing the spatial prioritization of fuel treatments for subcatchments. The student will collect field measurements and use spatial analysis and fire risk models to address these objectives. The successful applicant will be based in Larissa Yocom's fire ecology research group and will work closely with PIs Patrick Belmont and Brendan Murphy (USU Watershed Sciences), as well as a post-doc and other graduate students.

The position is funded through the Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP); three years of funding is already in place. The candidate should have earned an MS degree in a field related to forestry or ecology; highly-qualified candidates who have a BS in a similar field and relevant work experience will be considered. Preferred qualifications include quantitative skills and field experience. Review of applications will start immediately and continue until the position is filled. The position will begin in the summer or fall of 2020, depending on the successful applicant's availability and preference.

To apply, please email the following to Larissa Yocom (larissa.yocom@usu.edu):
1) a cover letter describing your experience and interests,
2) a CV or resume,
3) unofficial transcripts,
4) GRE scores, and
5) a list of three professional references and their contact information.

Graduate students may obtain degrees through the Department of Wildland Resources or the Ecology Center at Utah State. Utah State is located in Logan, which is 85 miles north of Salt Lake City and positioned in a scenic mountain basin with nearby wilderness areas, ski resorts, forests, lakes, rivers, and mountains. The cost of living in Logan is low, the community is very safe, and it is within a day's drive of multiple national parks.

Links:
https://qcnr.usu.edu/wild/index
http://ecology.usu.edu/