

PhD opportunity in the Brahney Lab at Utah State University

<https://janicebrahney.weebly.com/>

Project: The ecology and composition of particulates in canopy flow paths

The Environmental Biogeochemistry Lab at Utah State University is seeking a PhD candidate to examine the composition of particulate deposition and how they are modified through forest canopies. Approximately 40% of the North American continent and 1/3 of the global land surface will influence deposition composition through canopy interception, which affects the water quality available to humans and ecosystems and influences biogeochemical cycling at the micro and macro scale. The student will have the opportunity to collaborate with post-docs and other graduate students working on closely related projects. Wide latitude in approach and methods will be extended to the successful candidate.

Qualifications

The student(s) must have completed an MSc by the start date and have a strong interest and background in one or some of the following subjects: biogeochemistry, hydrology, water quality, and/or ecosystem ecology. Minimum academic requirements include a 3.2 GPA. Students with experience in biogeochemistry and related fields, strong communication skills, and experience with R, Matlab, or Python are preferred.

How to Apply

Please send 1) a letter describing your background, interest in the research area specifically addressing how you anticipate contributing to the project goals, and your educational and career goals, 2) your unofficial transcript, and 3) a CV that includes your GRE scores and the names and contact information for three references to Janice.brahney@usu.edu. The start date is August 2023. The position will remain open until filled.

About Logan and Utah State University

Utah State University is located in the city of Logan, Utah, a town with approximately 50,000 residents. Situated in a valley between the Wellsville and Bear River mountain ranges, Logan offers numerous opportunities for outdoor activities including local ski resorts, biking, and hiking trails. Logan is just a short drive to Salt Lake City, as well as many National Parks, Monuments, and Conservation Areas. The low cost of living makes this area an attractive place to live, play, and work.

Housing Costs

The cost of living in Logan, UT is affordable but like everywhere prices are increasing. The Watershed Science Department is working towards increasing student pay substantively to keep up with inflation. [Forbes](#) lists the cost of living in Logan at 6% below the national average. "Housing in Logan varies by quality and price. [College Factual](#) estimates the average cost for housing in Logan, Utah is \$2,160 for the academic year. [On-Campus housing](#) ranges from \$1,000 to \$4,000 per semester, with utilities included. Off-campus housing can be as low as \$250 per month or \$2,250 for the academic year. Off-Campus housing usually does not include utilities, and this can cost an extra \$100 per month, per person. Off-Campus housing may also require a deposit upon signing of a housing contract. Typically, the deposit is the amount of one month's rent, and the deposit may be returned upon moving out of the housing unit. "

Recreation

Logan, Utah is situated at the foot of the picturesque and easily accessible Bear River Mountain Range, just across from the rugged Wellsville Mountains, about 80 miles north of Salt Lake City. Logan is consistently ranked among the safest small cities in America, and outstanding recreational opportunities abound in the nearby mountains. We are also just a few hours away from the red rock country of southern Utah, the wild Uinta and Wind River ranges, the Grand Tetons, and Yellowstone. The view outside our windows reminds us daily of our charge to better understand and conserve our natural resources.