The James Lab at the University of Toronto is looking for an enthusiastic, creative, and quantitatively-oriented post-doctoral researcher in the field of forest disturbance ecology. Research in the James Lab aims to improve understanding of landscape-level disturbance and recovery processes in forest ecosystems and to inform sustainable resource management. Approaches employed include spatial modelling, simulation, population genetics, and field work.

This position will provide a junior researcher with the opportunity to take a leadership role investigating how outbreaks of forest insect pests interact with wildfire and climate to affect forest health, succession, biodiversity, and sustainability.

The project will use field-based fuel measurements as well as novel terrestrial laser scanning (TLS; LiDAR) techniques to develop models of how fuel structure changes through time following outbreaks. The project will also involve the development and application of stand- and landscape-scale simulation models to forecast future fire activity outcomes in response to outbreaks and climate change.

The project is part of the diverse and national-scale Canada Wildfire / NSERC Strategic Network focused on wildfire science.

The successful candidate will have completed their PhD at the time of appointment, have a strong background in forestry, wildfire science, or ecology, and have expertise in GIS, quantitative analysis, programming, and statistics (e.g., R). Experience with field work in remote areas is desirable.

Funding is available at a level of \$50,000/year for an initial appointment of one year with the possibility of extension. Financial support will also be provided for conferences and professional development. The targeted start date is January 2024. Details on post-doctoral studies at UofT can be found here.

To apply, please send your CV, academic transcript, and a short letter of motivation to: patrick.james@utoronto.ca before May 31, 2023.

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