

Graduate Research Assistantship Announcement
School of Natural Resources – University of Missouri

“Uneven-aged management of upland oak: evaluating regeneration and recruitment patterns to determine sustainability of harvest”

A Master of Science graduate research assistantship is available with Dr. Benjamin Knapp in the School of Natural Resources (<http://www.snr.missouri.edu/forestry/>) at University of Missouri. The assistantship will be in collaboration with the L-A-D Foundation and Pioneer Forest, the largest private landowner in the state of Missouri. Pioneer Forest has used uneven-aged forest management in upland hardwood forests for over half a century. Sustaining an uneven-aged forest through time requires regeneration of new trees and recruitment to larger size classes at a rate compatible with removal of overstory trees during harvest. Growing conditions created by harvest intensity (levels of light) or site factors (aspect, slope position) can further affect competitive interactions among species within the regeneration layer.

This project will use long-term continuous forest inventory data from Pioneer Forest, augmented by additional data collected for this project, to evaluate regeneration and recruitment patterns through time. Duties of this position will include completion of required coursework, sampling, data organization, data analyses related to study objectives, and the completion of a thesis and peer-reviewed publication(s). Competitive candidates for this position will have a B.S. degree in forestry, ecology, biology, natural resources, or a closely related discipline, proficiency in written and oral communication, strong GRE scores, and evidence of scholastic success. The position will begin in May or August 2020.

The successful candidate will receive tuition support and a competitive stipend (\$22,000 per year). To apply, please submit the following to Dr. Benjamin Knapp (knappb@missouri.edu):

- 1) personal statement of career goals
- 2) resume or curriculum vitae
- 3) transcripts
- 4) GRE scores
- 5) contact information for three references

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until a candidate is selected. Come join our growing lab (<https://www.mosilviculture.com/>)!

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