



Master of Science Position

[Dr. Cole D. Gross](#) is recruiting a master's student interested in soil science, carbon cycling, and microbial ecology research into the Natural Resources Management Program at the [State University of New York \(SUNY\) College of Environmental Science and Forestry \(ESF\)](#).

Project Description: The master's student will participate in a collaborative USDA-funded project investigating the effect of willow age and initial soil carbon storage on microbial community composition, soil health, and carbon flux in willow crop systems to determine the carbon balance of willow biomass production. This position will focus on microbial community analyses and relate community composition to soil and site variables. The master's student will have the unique opportunity to collaborate across universities and laboratory spaces (ESF and Syracuse University), as well as contribute to multiple aspects of the collaborative project.

Program Description: This position is for a Master of Science candidate in the Natural Resources Management Program at ESF. Funding will consist of a combination of research and teaching assistantships. A stipend, full tuition waiver, health insurance, and a summer position will be provided. University fellowships and scholarships are also available to support students. Advising will be provided by Dr. Cole Gross, as well as [Dr. Christopher Fernandez](#) (co-advisor) at neighboring Syracuse University, [Dr. Timothy Volk](#), and others from ESF's renown faculty.

Qualifications: Motivated students with related interests, lab experience, data analysis skills, effective communication abilities, and an undergraduate degree in biology, ecology, natural resources management, environmental science, or a related field are encouraged to apply.

SUNY ESF: ESF is one of the nation's premier colleges focused on the study of the environment, developing renewable technologies, and building a sustainable future. We work to address the Earth's most pressing problems, and students come here because they want to be part of the solution. ESF's tight-knit community is centered alongside Syracuse University in the heart of Central New York and has a system of properties that broadly represent New York state's rich ecological diversity for scientific study and instruction. ESF students enjoy the benefits of a small institution but also access to the resources at adjacent Syracuse University.

How To Apply: Prospective students should email a CV, statement of interest, and contact information for three references to Dr. Cole Gross (cdgross@esf.edu). This position starts in Fall 2024. Review of applications will begin May 3, 2024. The position will remain open until filled. Email Dr. Cole Gross with any questions.