

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

“Regenerating mixed pine-oak forests in east Texas ecosystems”

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 Boggy Slough Conservation Area (BSCA; <https://www.boggysloughconservation.org/>) and supported by the T.L.L. Temple Foundation through the Buddy Temple Graduate Fellowship. Upland forests at the BSCA include diverse mixtures of species, including oaks such as southern red oak, post oak, and blackjack oak, as well as pines that include loblolly, shortleaf, and longleaf pine. Managing complex species mixtures is challenging due to differing silvics among the species. In particular, promoting regeneration of mixtures of upland oak species with shortleaf or longleaf pine, while reducing abundance of loblolly pine and other fast-growing trees and shrubs, is difficult.

This project will establish a field experiment to determine effects of prescribed burning in combination with other silvicultural treatments (timber harvest/herbicide release) on the regeneration and recruitment of a variety of upland tree species. 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, and evidence of scholastic success. The position will begin in August 2021 or January 2022.

The successful candidate will receive tuition support and a competitive stipend (\$23,000 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) 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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