Masters Student Opportunity - Bioeconomics

Forestry Centre of Excellence –Adelaide University

Are you passionate about modelling, forest ecology, and making real-world impact for industry? Join a cutting-edge research project investigating how climate, pests, pathogens, and plantation management interact to shape the future of Australia's plantation blue gum industry. With program funding from Australian Forest and Wood Innovations, you will be supported by a wider team to answer real-world problems that growers face in the sustainable management of pests and diseases impacting plantation productivity.

Project Overview

This 2-year Masters by research project sits within the Forestry Centre of Excellence at Adelaide University and focuses on bioeconomic modelling of blue gum plantations to support climate adaptation strategies for sustainable pest management. In this project you will build a bioeconomic understanding of climate change adaptation strategies to manage emerging pest threats to forest health. You will work closely with industry partners and end-users, ensuring strong applied impact, opportunities for collaboration and professional development. You will be based in Adelaide University's new Forestry Centre of Excellence in Mount Gambier with project support, supervision and industry mentorship across South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, ACT and New Zealand. You will gain intensive training and supervision in forest growth and economic modelling of pest and disease impacts and management of blue gum plantations under different climate scenarios.

Key Skills & Background

We are seeking an exceptionally motivated student with interest or experience in one or more of the following areas:

- Strong data handling skills with experience aligning and integrating large and complex data sets
- Economics, ecology and/or data science
- Modelling (economic, process-based, ecological, and/or statistical)
- Population biology (pests or diseases)
- Ability to work with and integrate field-collected datasets
- Interest in developing and applying models to real-world forest health challenges

What You Will Gain

- Training and supervision from leading researchers in bioeconomics, forestry and ecology
- Experience in advanced modelling methods for forestry and plant health
- Strong industry connections and the opportunity to contribute to impactful applied research
- Access to high-quality field datasets and modelling tools

We will provide a standard student stipend that includes a tuition waiver with an additional scholarship top up.

How to Apply

Applications close **Monday 16 February 2026**

For more information or to apply submit your cover letter and CV to Dr Nari Williams

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