

Summer Field Crew – Forest Dynamics in the Pacific Northwest

Overview: We are hiring one (1) crew leader and three (3) additional crew members to work on a long-term study of tree growth and mortality in mature and old-growth forests of Oregon and Washington. This research is part of the Pacific Northwest Permanent Sample Plot Program (<http://pnwpsp.forestry.oregonstate.edu>). Our objective is to understand the long-term patterns and mechanisms of forest dynamics across a diversity of forest types in the mountains of the Northwest. We seek individuals who are interested in ecological research, are detail-oriented, enjoy working outdoors as part of a team, and can live cooperatively with others.

Duties: Field crew members will (a) navigate off-trail in steep, brushy terrain to relocate permanent plots using topographic maps, compass and GPS; (b) identify tree, shrub, and herbaceous plant species; (c) tag, measure and map trees; (d) assess and document symptoms and causes of tree mortality; and (e) record and check data for completeness and clarity.

Logistics: Crew is based at the HJ Andrews Experimental Forest (<http://andrewsforest.oregonstate.edu/>) near Blue River, OR, where housing is provided at no cost. Some camping will be necessary for sites located in Washington. Field season begins June 14, 2020 and wraps up by September 12, 2020.

Minimum qualifications:

- Enrolled in or graduated from a program in forestry, natural resources, environmental science or closely related field; or an equivalent combination of training and experience.
- Ability to follow complex data collection procedures.
- Experience or training in forest inventory methods and measurements.
- Experience navigating mountainous terrain using compass, map and GPS.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and with other crew members in a professional manner while maintaining a positive and safe work environment.

Preferred qualifications:

- Experience or training in identifying the symptoms and causes of tree mortality.
- Familiarity with the woody plants of the Cascade Mountains or proven ability to learn them quickly.
- Prior experience conducting field work and collecting data for research.
- First-aid or wilderness first-aid training.
- A demonstrable commitment to promoting and enhancing diversity.

Salary: \$13-\$19/hour

Duration: June 14 to September 12, 2020

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