

I am seeking a PhD student for the below position and am available to discuss with potential candidates in person at ESA next week. Please send me an email, and we can set up a time to meet.

PhD Position Available to Study Fire Ecology of Oak and Pine Forests

A fully funded PhD position is available starting in spring 2023 with Dr. Heather Alexander in the Forest and Fire Ecology Lab at Auburn University (Auburn, Alabama, USA) to study fire ecology of upland oak and pine forests. The student's research will examine how changing fire regimes impact forest composition and structure, regeneration of desired species, and consequences for forest restoration and carbon sequestration at a variety of sites across the southeastern U.S., including Ft. Benning. The student will interact with faculty in the College of Forestry, Wildlife, and Environment, private landowners, and state/federal agency personnel. In addition to developing and executing dissertation research, the student will be expected to (1) act as a teaching assistant for undergraduate courses in Forest Ecology and Forest Fire Management, (2) assist other collaborating researchers and lab members with their projects, and (3) contribute to college and university service.

Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree in forestry, ecology, biology, or a related field; preference will be given to applicants with a M.S. degree in one of these fields and/or those with a publication record. Prior experience in fieldwork related to forest ecology and/or silviculture is required. Successful candidates must demonstrate an aptitude for research, strong analytical and oral and written scientific communication skills, attention to detail, and ability to work independently and as a team. Applicants must be capable of working long hours outdoors exposed to harsh weather, biting insects, and thorny vegetation. Ability to drive ATVs, side x sides, operate chainsaws and other equipment, and implement prescribed fires is strongly desired. Must also possess a current and valid driver's license and be able to drive a state vehicle.

If interested, please email to Dr. Heather Alexander (heather.alexander@auburn.edu <<mailto:heather.alexander@auburn.edu>>) (1) a cover letter discussing interest in the research, qualifications, and applicable background experience; (2) a resume/CV; (3) unofficial transcripts; and (4) contact information for three professional references. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Details on the full application process to the Auburn Graduate School can be found at <http://graduate.auburn.edu/prospective-students/application-instructions/> <<https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fgraduate.auburn.edu%2Fprospective-students%2Fapplication-instructions%2F&data=05%7C01%7Chda0010%40auburn.edu%7C8a9e7cafe09b4774d38b08da5f69ebb5%7Cc6b6deedbd294b388979d72780f62d3b%7C1%7C0%7C637927205798180992%7CUnknown%7CTWFPbGZsb3d8eyJWljoimC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ikl1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=wu4apl5QyIx0fZsOP7c6LH6uJMertAJm2vUQoHYi2dY%3D&reserved=0>> . Financial support is available annually based on performance for at least 3 years (most likely 4 years), starting in January 2023, and includes a stipend (\$22,000/year) and tuition waiver. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

Notice: Auburn University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. It is our policy to provide equal employment opportunities for all individuals without regard to race, sex, religion, color, national origin, age, disability, protected veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other classification protected by applicable law.

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