

Postdoc ' Dynamics of U.S. Forests, University of Florida

We are seeking applications for a two-year postdoctoral research position to study changes in the dynamics of U.S. forests. Analysis will focus on the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) database and may also leverage other national-scale datasets.

Background: Multiple factors may affect trends in forest dynamics, including rising concentrations of atmospheric carbon dioxide, climate change, nutrient limitation, and air pollution. These factors may affect forest growth and mortality directly through physiological mechanisms, as well as indirectly through shifts in species composition. As the spatial and temporal coverage of national-scale data continues to improve, so do opportunities to better characterize and understand changes in forest dynamics. The complex disturbance history of U.S. forests also poses significant challenges for attributing changes to different mechanisms. Addressing these challenges requires advanced statistical and/or process-modeling approaches.

Details of the position: The postdoctoral scholar will be employed by the University of Florida and will work under the supervision of Jeremy Lichstein at the University of Florida and Grant Domke at the USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station in St. Paul, MN to improve our understanding of how and why U.S. forest dynamics have changed over recent decades. Principal duties include (1) developing and testing relevant modeling approaches, (2) applying these approaches to analysis of FIA data, and (3) publishing the findings in peer-reviewed journals.

Work location: Remote hires will be considered for exceptional candidates, but preference will be given to candidates who can regularly interact in-person with one of the project supervisors. The highest preference will be given to candidates who can work on the University of Florida main campus in Gainesville, FL. Secondary preference will be given to candidates who can work at the USDA Northern Research Station in St. Paul, MN.

The position is funded for two years with an annual salary of \$50,000 and competitive benefits. The start date is flexible.

Required qualifications: PhD in a relevant field; strong quantitative and writing skills.

Preferred qualifications:

- Experience analyzing forest inventory data and/or other broad-scale environmental datasets.
- Experience with advanced statistical methods, such as hierarchical Bayesian models or non-linear mixed effects models.
- Knowledge of forest dynamics and terrestrial carbon cycling.

To apply, send the following to Jeremy Lichstein (jlichstein@ufl.edu):

- Cover letter explaining your interest in the position and relevant experience.
- Curriculum Vitae.
- Contact information for three references.

We welcome applicants from underrepresented groups, and we strive for a diverse and inclusive work environment. For more information on our diversity and inclusion principles, please see: <https://diversity.clas.ufl.edu/diversity-statement/>.

