Two NEW Opportunities in Forest Ecosystem Ecology:

Nitrogen Recovery in Postfire Forests of Greater Yellowstone

Dr. Monica G. Turner in the Department of Integrative Biology seeks (i) a PhD student interested in forest ecosystem ecology, specifically nitrogen (N) cycling and postfire stand dynamics, and (ii) a postgraduate research intern to coordinate field and laboratory work in support of this project. Both positions are in the Turner Lab and part of new NSF-funded collaborative research with Dr. Cory Cleveland (University of Montana). We will explore how N recovers in aggrading postfire lodgepole pine stands in Greater Yellowstone and how N stocks might respond to more frequent, stand-replacing fire.

PhD student: This student will begin research in summer 2021 as we estimate vegetation patterns and N stocks in short-interval fires and develop a dissertation as part of this project. The student will participate in exchange visits with the Cleveland lab. Support will be from both TA and RA appointments.

Qualifications: Applicants must have strong academic records, including quantitative skills; excellent references; keen interest in ecosystem ecology, forests, fire and landscape ecology; and be able to start research during summer 2021. Prior research experience is highly desirable. Applications are encouraged from outstanding candidates who thrive in a collaborative team setting, enjoy field and lab work, and have excellent communication and writing skills. Prospective applicants are encouraged to contact Dr. Turner (turnermg@wisc.edu) regarding their interests.

To apply: Graduate applications for 2021-22 academic year are due 1 December 2020. Applicants should choose “Zoology” as their major (our department was renamed Integrative Biology, but the graduate program name change has not yet taken effect).

Research intern: A non-permanent paid training position is available in the Turner lab to prepare for field season, conduct field research, manage samples, perform laboratory analyses on soils and vegetation, enter and check data, and assist with GIS analyses. The research intern will gain experience in state-of-the-art research in terrestrial ecosystem ecology.

Qualifications: Applicants must have completed a BS (MS preferred) in ecology, biology, or related field prior to starting and have strong interest in field work, ecosystem studies and biogeochemistry. Competitive candidates will have research experience (vegetation, soils, field methods) and be comfortable in remote settings. Candidates must be able to work collaboratively. This position is initially available for two years, and starting date must be before the summer 2021 field season.

To apply: Candidates should send a single PDF containing a cover letter, CV, one-page statement of research interests and relevant experience, transcripts (unofficial is acceptable), and the names and contact information of three references. Review of applicants will begin 15 December 2020 but position will remain open until filled. Email application packages to Dr. Turner (turnermg@wisc.edu).

For additional information about the Turner Lab, visit http://landscape.zoology.wisc.edu/
For additional information about Ecology at UW-Madison, visit http://ecology.wisc.edu/

UW-Madison is an equal opportunity employer, and specifically invites and encourages applications from women and minorities. The Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 requires the University to verify the identity and work authorization of the successful applicant. Any offer of employment is contingent upon verification.

4 August 2020