

PhD Position Available in Forest Science at Michigan Technological University

Assistantship Description: A PhD position is available with Dr. Matthew Kelly at Michigan Technological University's College of Forest Resources and Environmental Science. The student will work as a member of a diverse team of scholars on an NSF-funded transdisciplinary project (MICARES: Michigan Community & Anishinaabe Renewable Energy Sovereignty). The MICARES project focuses on developing tools to support Tribal Nation and non-Tribal rural community renewable energy decision making. The student will work with Dr. Kelly to assess risks, barriers and opportunities to use woody biomass to support bioenergy systems for rural and tribal communities. This work will involve assessing biophysical, social, and economic availability of woody biomass from various landowner and industrial sources. The student will be part of a large, transdisciplinary team, which will provide numerous opportunities to network and collaborate with team members from Tribal Nations, various academic disciplines, regional non-profits, and local communities.

Essential Qualifications:

- Masters of Science degree in Forest Science, Forest Resource Management, Environmental Science, or other related field.
- Research experience including data collection and analysis.
- Initiative and willingness to learn and try new things.
- Ability to communicate effectively, both in terms of formal written reports/manuscripts and oral presentations as well informal communication with supervisors and colleagues.

Desired Qualifications:

- GIS experience is preferred
- Proven ability to publish in peer-reviewed scientific journals
- Experience working with and/or living among Indigenous and rural communities is highly preferred.

Funding: The selected candidate will be funded for a period of 2 years, which includes a livable stipend and tuition.

Timing: The preferred start date is spring semester (January) 2021, however exceptional candidates will be considered with a fall semester (August) 2021 start date.

If interested please email Dr. Matt Kelly at mackelly@mtu.edu to express your interest in the position. Please include a brief cover letter describing your relevant qualifications and interest in the project. Also include a copy of your CV or resume.