

M.S. Opportunities at Purdue University: Forest ecosystem response to invasive plant control

We are seeking two motivated M.S. students to become part of a USDA NIFA-funded project in the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources at Purdue University. The overall goal of the project is to determine the ecological and economic effectiveness of federal cost-share programs to control invasive plants on private land. The MS students will examine how native plant diversity, forest reproduction, and annual tree growth have responded to control treatments.

Positions are funded for two years beginning in January 2022 and includes a graduate stipend, tuition waiver, and access to employer assisted health insurance.

Applicants should have a GPA of 3.2 or higher. GRE scores are not required, but may be submitted.

Desired qualifications: an undergraduate degree in forestry, botany, ecology, plant science, biology or a related field; experience conducting field research; interest in forest ecology and invasion biology.

To apply: Prospective applicants should send, via e-mail attachment, a brief letter of interest, CV (including GPA and contact information for three references), and unofficial transcripts to both Jingjing Liang(liang292@purdue.edu) and Mike Jenkins (jenkinma@purdue.edu). We will begin reviewing materials on August 2, 2021.

Women and individuals from other historically under-represented groups are strongly encouraged to apply. Purdue University is an equal-opportunity, affirmative-action employer.

About Purdue: Purdue is a land-grant university of over 40,000 students and was ranked the 9th best public university in the U.S. by *The Wall Street Journal* and *Times Higher Education*. Located in West Lafayette, Indiana, Purdue is an easy drive from Indianapolis and Chicago. The Department of Forestry and Natural Resources (FNR) is housed administratively in the College of Agriculture (#8 world ranking); emphasizes interdisciplinary approaches across a broad spectrum of natural-resource sciences; and offers vibrant, nationally ranked graduate programs in ecology, forestry, fisheries, and wildlife. The West Lafayette-Lafayette area is home to a diverse community with a population of 174,000, good schools, safe neighborhoods, over 40 parks and extensive trail systems, active farmers' markets, and year-round community festivals and art events.

