Outreach Notice
Forest Inventory and Analysis
Research Soil Scientist/Forester/Ecologist, GS-0470/460/0408-11/12
Permanent, Full-time, 1 Research Position
Duty Station: Falcon Heights, MN

Please reply by February 19, 2021

Find rewarding and challenging work with the largest forestry research organization in the world.

The USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station (NRS) will soon be advertising for a GS-0470/0460/0408-11/12 research position with the Analysis Science Group (ASG) in the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Program. The ASG is responsible for research and development to advance the science, monitoring, and reporting of the FIA program. The program’s mission is to ensure the health and sustainability of forest ecosystems by conducting multi-scale inventory, monitoring, and assessment activities that develop the information and tools necessary to inform forest policies and practices, and increase the understanding of forest processes and associated threats to ecosystem/human health.

The successful candidate will have responsibilities including but is not limited to:
- maintaining and improving forest attributes in the Forest Inventory and Analysis database,
- compiling estimates of forest attributes (e.g., land-use change, volume growth, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and removals, etc),
- compiling estimates of soil quality and forest health metrics,
- advancing the infrastructure for estimating forest health and forest soil attributes across spatial and temporal scales,
- exploring approaches to improve the accuracy and precision of forest attribute estimates across scales,
- testing methods and models for estimating carbon in soils in forest land and other treed lands,
- improving documentation and data delivery tools,
- analyzing FIA forest resource data for one or more states,
- coordinating forest health and soils research and analyses with external partners.

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The research assignment encompasses methods development, modeling, and quality assurance research. The research emphasis includes managing, implementing, and analyzing a unique national, strategic inventory of soil quality critical to national-scale forest carbon and health assessments. Work assignments will require ingenuity, knowledge of ecological principles and processes, a solid background in statistical sampling and analysis methods, experience harmonizing big data in traditional databases and cloud-based computing environments, and a desire to have fun utilizing these skills and experiences in a creative and highly-collaborative team setting. The incumbent will work as part of a group of scientists and technical staff from the Forest Service and with post-docs, graduate students, and faculty from several Universities to further the FIA Program’s holistic objectives and mission.

About the Program: The Northern Research Station, Forest Inventory and Analysis (NRS-FIA) work unit is one of four units that, combined, make up the national Forest Inventory and Analysis program (www.fia.fs.fed.us). The Forest Inventory and Analysis program is charged with designing, implementing, and analyzing surveys of the nation’s forest resources and it has been doing so since the 1930s. The NRS-FIA work unit is tasked with these charges for 24 states – the area of the Northern Research Station plus the 4 plains states.

PLEASE NOTE: This position is available to U.S. citizens only. To apply, you must do so through www.usajobs.gov, where the announcement will be advertised under the DEMO authority.

THE POSITION
Primarily in an office setting, this position is Full-Time. The employee may be required to travel both domestically and internationally periodically throughout the year to attend conferences or meetings to present analyses and/or research findings.

Transfer of Station (TOS) is not offered. Telework eligible for 1 day per week.

Persons interested in this position is encouraged to contact Randy Morin, by email randall.s.morin@usda.gov or by phone 610-357-7977. See outreach form below.

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Outreach Interest
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NRS-FIA Research Soil Scientist/Forester/Ecologist

If you are interested in this position, complete this form and send it by email to:
Randall Morin, Research Forester, USDA Forest Service, York, PA
randall.s.morin@usda.gov Questions? call Randy at 610-357-7977

PERSONAL INFORMATION
Name: ____________________________________________ Date: ________________
Address: __________________________________________________________________
City: ____________________________ State: _____________________
E-mail address: _______________________________________ Phone: ________________

EMPLOYMENT
Are you currently a Federal Employee?   Yes □   No □

If Yes:
   Name of your Agency & Location: _________________________________
   Current title/series/grade: _________________________________________
   Type of Appointment:    Permanent □   Term □   Temporary □

If No:
   Current Employer: ________________________________________________
   Current Position Title & Approx. Salary: _____________________________
   Type of Appointment:    Permanent □   Term □   Temporary □

Are you eligible for appointment under any of the following special authorities?
☐ Former Peace Corps         ☐ Veteran’s Employment Opportunities Act of 1998
☐ Person with Disabilities    ☐ Veteran’s Readjustment
☐ Student Employment Program  ☐ Reinstatement Eligibility
☐ Veteran with 30% Compensable Disability ☐ Other

Thank you for your interest in the position

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