PhD assistantship available Fall 2021

The Wason Lab of Forest Ecosystem Physiology in the School of Forest Resources at the University of Maine seeks applicants for a fully funded PhD position. The position is part of a new transdisciplinary research project integrating biophysical and social science in solutions-driven research. The research will address climate change impacts on tree ecology or physiology. Interested applicants should review recent research in Dr. Wason's lab to identify project ideas related to dendrochronology, forest ecology, tree ecophysiology, or xylem structure-function relationships. This research will also explore a social science aspect of climate change impacts on forests (ex. climate change risk perceptions, adaptive management techniques, barriers to implementation). No prior social science experience is required.

Qualifications: The ideal candidate will have field and lab skills, experience with tree ecological or physiological measurements, interest or experience in microscopy, familiarity with northeastern US forests, a demonstrated ability to conduct independent research, strong written and verbal communication skills, and an interest in transdisciplinary research. Experience with R is desired. Start date is September 2021. A Master's degree is strongly encouraged. PhD applicants preferred; will consider MS applicants.

This position is part of the Conservation Science and Practice, NSF Research Traineeship (NRT) program that will prepare the next generation of conservation leaders. The goal of the NRT program is to build a well-trained and experienced workforce to advance conservation solutions that will lead to enhanced resilience of socio-ecological systems in Maine and beyond. This innovative program includes:

- A new graduate specialization in Conservation Science.
- Courses in socio-ecological resilience and science communication.
- Internship with a conservation partner in Maine to master STEM professional skills.
- Transdisciplinary research projects.
- Mentoring by faculty from multiple academic departments.

If interested, send a CV, GRE scores, and statement of your research interests to jay.wason@maine.edu or use this form (https://umaine.edu/conservationscience/prospective-students/) to submit materials.

Deadline to submit materials is Jan 4th, 2021. **Funding is provided by NSF and is only available to U.S. citizens, nationals, and permanent residents.**

Jay Wason, Ph.D.
University of Maine, School of Forest Resources

Please see our website (https://umaine.edu/conservationscience/) **for additional information on our program.**