

Fall 2021/Spring 2022

USDA Forest Service FIA Tree Utilization Project – M.S. Research Assistantship

Position Description:

The Forest Biometrics Lab at University of Tennessee (UT) is now accepting applications for a 2-year M.S. research assistantship under the supervision of Dr. Sheng-I Yang. The position is part of the Timber Products Output (TPO) Studies in the USDA Forest Service Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) national program. Tree utilization information collected from harvest sites is used to characterize harvest operations and to estimate the amount of timber volume harvested and utilized. The objective of the project for this position is to explore new methodology which provides more reliable estimates of tree utilization and low-grade wood material availability in order to accurately assess carbon pools and carbon fluxes at finer geographical scales in the U.S. The project will be conducted in collaboration with Dr. Consuelo Brandeis at USDA Forest Service FIA. The incumbent will be responsible to present research results in professional meetings and to publish relevant work in peer-reviewed journals.

The incumbent can start in fall 2021 or spring 2022. The assistantship pays \$1,700/month (USD) and covers health insurance and tuition for 2 years.

Qualifications:

A B.S. degree in forestry, natural resources, ecology, economics, environmental science, statistics, or related field is required. Knowledge of inferential statistics, data analytics and geographic information system (GIS) and experience in computer programming, statistical analysis or data management are essential. Strong written and oral communication skills in English, self-motivation, perseverance, and the ability to work independently and collaboratively are important.

How to apply:

Interested candidates should email the following material to Dr. Sheng-I Yang (syang47@utk.edu):

- (1) A description of the candidate's academic experience, research interests and career goals.
- (2) A curriculum vitae (CV) with contact information for three professional references.
- (3) A copy of unofficial undergraduate transcripts.
- (4) A copy of an unofficial GRE transcript if the GRE has already been taken.
- (5) One or two examples of key research publications/essays/writing samples.

Applications will be accepted and reviewed until the position is filled.

The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment and admission without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, genetic information, veteran status, and parental status.