Graduate Research Assistantship Opportunity in Remote Sensing of Coastal Forest Dynamics

The School of Forest Resources at the University of Maine is currently recruiting for a graduate research assistantship position (M.S. or PhD) to study the coastal spruce forest ecosystem in Maine. This represents an exciting opportunity for to contribute to state-of-the-art research in the use of remote sensing to study forest dynamics. The research will focus on connecting *in situ* plot data with multi-scale remote sensing, including hyperspectral, thermal, and lidar from drones, airplanes, and spaceborne platforms. The student will join the Wheatland Geospatial Laboratory and have the opportunity to work collaboratively with a larger team of students, researchers, and project stakeholders.

To fill this assistantship, we seek a highly qualified student with a strong quantitative science background, a keen interest in the geospatial aspects of broad-scale ecosystem science, and an eagerness for scientific research. The ideal candidate will possess the following qualifications: a B.S. or M.S. degree in ecology, forestry, or equivalent natural resources discipline, preferably including GIS, statistics, and data analytics training; appropriate understanding of climate change science and disturbance ecology; experience with and/or aptitude for scientific programming (e.g., R, Python); an ability to work productively both independently and as a team member; and a disposition toward high quality written and oral communication.

The student will work with Peter Nelson and Daniel Hayes and the position can begin as early as Fall semester 2023. The assistantship includes a full stipend ($25,000 to $30,000 annually), full student health insurance, and tuition paid. The state's Land Grant flagship campus is located in the town of Orono, offering a unique lifestyle in a beautiful part of the world, including access to some of the country's finest, four-season outdoor recreation opportunities, including Acadia National Park, Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument and Baxter State Park.

To express interest, please fill out this form: https://forms.gle/mFWCvqrZtxLmMc949. Select candidates will be contacted for an interview as soon as possible, and this position will remain open until filled. Contact daniel.j.hayes@maine.edu for more information.