

Subject: UW-Madison, SILVIS Lab - One Postdoc or PhD position available to study wildfires in the Wildland Urban Interface

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Overview: The wildland urban interface (WUI) is where houses and wildland vegetation mix or intermingle, and where wildland fire problems are most vexing. The SILVIS lab (silvis.forest.wisc.edu) has pioneered research on the WUI for over a decade. We are currently working on two wildfire projects in the WUI. In the first project, we model wildfire risk in the WUI based on observed fire patterns as recorded by MODIS active fire satellite data across the conterminous U.S., and to map the fire mitigation zone. In the second project, we assess how rebuilding and new development after fires change the risk of future wildlife damage to houses, and examine if communities in the WUI adapt when houses are lost to fires.

We are seeking to hire either a postdoc or a PhD student to contribute to these projects. The projects are part of a collaboration between UW-Madison (V. Radeloff, S. Stewart), and the US Forest Service (M. Mockrin), and funded by the Northern Research Station of the USFS and the Joint Fire Sciences Program.

Positions: We are offering the postdoctoral position for two years. The appointment will be as a research associate. Salary is competitive and commensurate with experience. The position is available immediately, and we seek to fill it by September 1st 2016 at the latest.

We are offering the PhD graduate assistantship for three years. The student will be appointed as a research assistant with a stipend of \$21,648 per year plus health benefits and tuition remission. We anticipate the PhD student to start September 1st 2016, but an earlier start date is negotiable.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. We promote excellence through diversity and encourage all qualified individuals to apply.

The university has a long history of excellence in ecology, conservation biology, remote sensing and geography. Either position would be based in the SILVIS lab (<http://silvis.forest.wisc.edu/>) and supervised by V. Radeloff.

UW-Madison is a major research university in the United States ranking consistently among the top-five university in research expenditures among all U.S. universities. Total student enrollment is 43,000 of which more than 12,000 are graduate and professional students, and there are over 2000 faculty. It is an exciting place to learn and conduct research.

The city of Madison ranks as one of the top places in the U.S. to live and work. For information about campus and city, please see <http://www.wisc.edu/about/>

Qualifications: We seek a candidate who works well in a collaborative setting and has excellent communication and writing skills. Good English writing and verbal communication skills, as well as the ability to work in a team, are essential. Demonstrated skills in the processing and handling of large datasets, statistical modeling, spatial ecology, and GIS are expected. Knowledge of remote sensing, fire ecology, or human demographics is a plus.

Applicants for the post-doc position must have completed their Ph.D. at the time of appointment and have published in peer-reviewed scientific journals. Applicants for the PhD student position must have completed a BS, and a MS by the time of appointment is desirable, but candidates with equivalent experience will be considered.

To apply: All candidates should send a cover letter summarizing their research interests, a CV, unofficial transcripts, and contact information for three references. Application packages need to be compiled into one, single PDF file, and sent to maxted@wisc.edu.

Review of applicants will begin immediately, but the positions will remain open until a suitable candidate is found. Applications received by February 5th 2016 are guaranteed consideration.

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