

Subject: MS positions to study forest and fire ecology of upland oaks

I am seeking two highly motivated MS graduate students to join the Forest and Fire Ecology research group in the College of Forest Resources at Mississippi State University (Starkville, MS). Students will conduct research investigating the influence of fire and herbivore disturbances on upland oak forest regeneration and consequences of forest canopy shifts on resource availability and forest flammability. Students will participate in extensive field research at a variety of sites, such as the Tombigbee National Forest (MS), Bankhead National Forest (AL), and Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest (KY).

Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree in forestry, ecology, biology, or a related field. Successful candidates must demonstrate an aptitude for research, strong analytical and communication skills, attention to detail, and ability to work independently. Prior experience in fieldwork related to forest and ecosystem ecology is highly desired, as are data analysis and scientific writing experience.

If interested, please contact Dr. Heather Alexander at heather.alexander@msstate.edu and provide (1) a cover letter discussing interest in the research and applicable background experience; (2) a resume/CV; and (3) unofficial transcripts. Details on the full application process can be found at <http://www.grad.msstate.edu/prospective/>. Financial support is available for two years, starting in fall 2016 and includes a stipend, tuition waiver, and health insurance.