

Subject: PhD student at the Department of Forest Ecology and Management, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Umeå, Sweden

please help distributing this announcement for a PhD student position which will become available at the Department of Forest Ecology and Management, SLU, to explore carbon and water cycles of boreal forest ecosystems. The main goal of this project is to improve our understanding of management and climate impacts on the carbon sequestration potentials and water use efficiency of boreal forests. The project will be based on eddy covariance flux measurements supported by a suit of meteorological and ancillary measurements. The study field sites are located close to Vindeln, Västerbotten and include the well-established research infrastructures of the ICOS-Svartberget/Krycklan and Rosinedal field stations (www.slu.se/en/departments/field-based-forest-research/experimental-forests/vindeln-experimental-forests/).

The PhD project is part of the large and multi-disciplinary project 'Branchpoints' which explores carbon and water fluxes in boreal forests by the use of novel stable isotope techniques, eddy covariance measurements and process-based modeling (<http://www.slu.se/en/departments/forest-ecology-management/research/krycklan-catchment-study-new/history/15-positions-to-apply-/>). The PhD project will contribute to this ambitious research framework with eddy covariance data for method comparisons across multiple scales. Thus, the successful candidate will join a collaborative group of graduate students and senior scientists conducting unique research in the boreal forest landscape. The student will be given opportunities for cross-project collaborations and to use existing data to explore additional areas of interest.

Qualifications

We are searching for a highly motivated student with a MSc. in Environmental Sciences, Forestry, Physical Geography, or any related field. The candidate should have good communication skills, a strong work ethic, be a team player and work well in a research environment. Knowledge of the forest carbon and water cycles, as well as of climate and forestry impacts on boreal forest ecosystems is preferred. Experience with field data collection methods and skills in handling large, high-frequency data sets (ideally from eddy covariance measurements) is a merit. The successful candidate must be fluent in English to be able to interact in an English-speaking work environment and have a driving license which is required for accessing the field sites.

Contact and application information

Students interested in this position should send a statement of interest outlining relevant research qualifications and a CV including contact information for three references to Matthias Peichl (Matthias.Peichl@slu.se).

Review of interested candidates will start April 1 and continue until a suitable candidate has been identified. The position start date is flexible but is anticipated to be between June 2016 and January 2017. Full funding is available for 4 years. The affiliation of the PhD student will be the Department of Forest Ecology and Management, SLU, in Umeå, Sweden (www.slu.se/en/departments/forest-ecology-management/).

cheers,

Matthias

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