Northern Arizona University School of Forestry seeks to fill one PhD position funded through a Teaching Assistantship focused on changes in structure, pattern and composition related to post-fire recovery and reburns across landscapes in the southwestern U.S.

The position will be supervised by Dr. Andrea Thode (andi.thode@nau.edu)

The PhD student will conduct field and remote-sensing based investigations of fire effects and changes in forest structure in southwestern ecosystems. Reburns will be of particular interest in looking at potential vegetation type conversions. Work will include the publication of results in peer-reviewed journals, fact-sheets and sharing of results through webinars and conference talks.

The start date is Fall of 2020. The recipient of this position will work 20 hours a week as teaching assistant, and will receive an annual stipend, university health insurance and a tuition waiver. Funding is available until the complete of the degree.

**Required qualifications**

- All of the requirements for admission to the School of Forestry PhD program
- A genuine interest and experience relevant to fire ecology
- Ability to implement modern applied statistical analyses in R
- Experience acquiring and managing large datasets, including metadata documentation
- Experience with field sampling, including logistics and off-trail navigation
- Experience with GIS and geospatial software, data, and analytical methods
- Knowledge of Python programming
- Ability to work independently and to manage multiple responsibilities and deadlines
- Excellent written and oral communication
- Excellent time management skills
Preferred Qualifications

- A research-based MS degree in forestry, ecology, natural resources, biology, climate change or a related field
- Experience as a college-level teaching assistant in forestry, ecological, biological, or environmental sciences or natural resources management
- Strong self-motivation, determination and ability to work in unstructured environments

How to apply:

- Please send the following documents to Dr. Andrea Thode via email (andi.thode@nau.edu) by the end of the day on Thursday, March 5th, 2020 (applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis after that)
- A one-page letter clearly stating experience, qualifications and research interests
- An up-to-date resume
- A recent writing sample.
- Contact details for three references (at least one academic reference)

Additional materials may be requested later in the process. Please note that the successful applicant must be based on the Flagstaff campus for the duration of the degree. Requests to study remotely will not be considered.

About Northern Arizona University

Northern Arizona University is a 29,000 student-institution with its main campus in Flagstaff, a city of about 70,000 at the base of the San Francisco Peaks. Flagstaff is known for its year-round recreation opportunities, including skiing, hiking, and rock climbing, as well as its proximity to the Grand Canyon, four National Forests, and numerous State Parks and Wilderness Areas. More information about NAU’s graduate programs in Forestry, including eligibility requirements, can be found at https://nau.edu/forestry/degrees-and-programs/phd-forest-science/.

Our graduate student handbook can be found at: https://nau.edu/forestry/internal-resources/graduate-student-handbook/