

## PhD Position, Northern Arizona University for Fall 2022



Northern Arizona University School of Forestry seeks to fill one PhD position funded through a Teaching Assistantship. This position will focus on spatial patterns of wildfire disturbance related to forest dynamics, changing climate, post-fire recovery, and potentially biodiversity conservation. Applicants should possess strong analytical and statistical skills, demonstrated experience with GIS and spatial analysis, and good field skills.

There are two potential projects related to the PhD but it is somewhat flexible for the student to create their own ideas as well. The first project is to conduct investigations related to wildlife species distributions, the history of fire (severity, frequency, area burned), forest dynamics (patch size and isolation; composition and structure), and climate in the Jemez Mountains. The second project relates to revisiting 22-year-old post-fire plots in the Sierra Nevada Range in CA to look at change through time and reburns.

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

The position start date is Fall 2022. The recipient of this position will work 20 hours a week as a teaching assistant, and will receive an annual stipend, university health insurance, and a tuition waiver. Funding is available until the completion of the degree.

### Required qualifications

- All of the requirements for admission to the NAU School of Forestry PhD program
- A research-based MS degree in forestry, ecology, natural resources, biology, or a related field
- Strong analytical and quantitative skills; ability to implement complex, applied statistical analyses in R
- Experience acquiring and managing large datasets
- Experience with GIS and geospatial software, data, and analytical methods
- Experience with field sampling, including logistics and off-trail navigation
- Ability to work independently and to manage multiple responsibilities and deadlines
- Demonstrated research abilities including development of research questions, study design and implementation, data analysis and interpretation, and dissemination of results via publications and presentations.

### **How to apply**

Please send the following documents to Dr. Andrea Thode ([andi.thode@nau.edu](mailto:andi.thode@nau.edu)) by **March 20th**. **I will be doing a first review of applicants by March 9<sup>th</sup> but will accept applications until March 20<sup>th</sup>.**

- A one-page cover letter clearly stating experience, qualifications, and research interests
- A current CV describing your education and experience relevant to the position
- Unofficial transcripts (undergraduate and graduate)
- A recent writing sample (e.g., peer reviewed publication, thesis, etc.)
- Contact details for three references (including 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 (excepting COVID issues).

### **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/>.