

Purdue University - Forestry and Natural Resources

Position Title: Field Technician

Hours: 40 hrs/week, typically 10 hr days Mon-Thursday

Duration: May to August

Compensation: \$13.50/hr. Housing provided in Sevierville, TN.



Job Description:

One field technician is needed to assist with collecting vegetation and soil data in Great Smoky Mountains National Park as a collaborative study between Purdue University and the National Park Service. This technician will be working with a graduate student who is evaluating long-term changes in vegetation structure and composition as the spruce-fir forest regenerates after widespread Fraser fir (*Abies fraseri*) mortality caused by balsam woolly adelgid. The field season will be spent working in the Park based out of Gatlinburg, TN. The position will require hiking 5-15 miles per day carrying a heavy pack to access remote sites with frequent multi-night backpacking trips. Effective communication, respect for team members, prioritization of safety, a positive attitude, and dependability are all essential skills for a successful field season.

Requirements:

- › Woody plant identification skills desired
- › Must be able to work outdoors in remote areas, on steep terrain on and off-trail and in inclement weather conditions
- › Must be in good physical fitness
- › Previous field work experience preferred
- › Experience navigating with GPS, topographic maps and compass desired
- › Backpacking and backcountry camping experience desired
- › Must possess a valid driver's license
- › Must follow current COVID safety protocols

To apply: Email a cover letter describing your qualifications, resume or CV (including contact information for two references), unofficial transcript, and dates of availability to Tori Hongo (hongo@purdue.edu). We will begin reviewing applications on March 21, 2022 and continue until the position is filled. Please contact Tori or Mike Jenkins (jenkinma@purdue.edu) with any questions.

