

Forest Ecology Summer Field Crew – Forest Dynamics in the Pacific Northwest

Overview: We are hiring four (4) crew members to work on a long-term study of tree growth and mortality in mature and old-growth forests of Oregon and Washington. This research is part of the Pacific Northwest Permanent Sample Plot Program (<http://pnwpsonline.forestry.oregonstate.edu>). The project objective is to understand the long-term patterns and mechanisms of undisturbed forest dynamics and post-fire forest recovery across a diversity of forest types. Employee(s) will learn about forest succession, forest dynamics, tree mortality, and fire effects in mature and old-growth forests of the Cascade Mountains and Coast Range.

Duties: Field crew members will (a) navigate off-trail in steep, brushy terrain to relocate permanent plots using topographic maps, compass and GPS; (b) identify tree, shrub, and herbaceous plant species; (c) tag, measure and map trees; (d) assess and document symptoms and causes of tree mortality; and (e) record and check data for completeness and clarity.

Logistics: Crews are based at the HJ Andrews Experimental Forest (<http://andrewsforest.oregonstate.edu>) near Blue River, OR where housing is provided at no cost. Camping will be necessary for non-HJ Andrews sites located in Washington and Oregon. When camping, a stipend will be provided.

Minimum qualifications:

- Enrolled in or graduated from a program in forestry, natural resources, environmental science or closely related field; or an equivalent combination of training and experience.
- Ability to follow complex data collection procedures.
- Experience or training in forest inventory methods and measurements.
- Experience navigating mountainous terrain using compass, map and GPS.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and with other crew members in a professional manner while maintaining a positive and safe work environment.

Preferred qualifications:

- Experience or training in identifying the symptoms and causes of tree mortality.
- Familiarity with the woody plants of the PNW or proven ability to learn them quickly.
- Prior experience conducting field work and collecting data for research.
- First-aid or wilderness first-aid training; Wildland Firefighting training.
- A demonstrable commitment to promoting and enhancing diversity.

Salary: \$19.00/hour (crew member; \$21.00/hour (crew lead)

Duration: June 15 to September 18, 2026

On-line application instructions:

- Application depends on student status. *You are considered a student if you are enrolled for at least 6 credits in spring and intend to take at least 6 credits in the fall.*
- Go to <https://jobs.oregonstate.edu> choose ‘Search Jobs’, and enter the following, appropriate Posting # in the Keyword search:
 - **Students (Crew leader or crew member):** Posting # **P12760SE**
 - **Grads/Non-students: Crew Leader:** Posting # **P05514CT**
 - **Grads/Non-students; Crew member:** Posting # **P05516CT**
- Click on “Apply for this Job” and follow the instructions.

For More Information: Contact Andrew Bluhm, PNW Permanent Sample Plot Program Coordinator, Department of Forest Engineering, Resources and Management, Oregon State University (Andrew.Bluhm@oregonstate.edu)