

Seasonal Forestry Research Assistant

Agency: University of Alberta, [Nock](#) and [Landhäusser Lab](#).

Location: Primarily based in Edmonton, AB, however, the position requires travel to field sites located near Sundre, Grande Prairie, Peace River, and potentially other locations in Alberta.

Compensation: \$18.50/hr plus per-diem and lodging when on travel status.

Work term: May 1st to August 30th 2024.

Position Description and Work Environment:

The field technician will assist in multiple research projects throughout the summer pertaining to forestry:



Project one is with a masters student who is examining the role of snags in the regeneration of burned stands at a site located near Bearberry, Alberta. There will also be a period of planting roughly 200 trees followed by bi weekly monitoring, camping will be involved.

Project two involves assisting a PhD student who is investigating intraspecific variation in functional traits of aspen in Canada and how these traits influence its resilience to climate change. This year, the focus is on collecting samples from aspen trees in Alberta. The technician will help gather samples in the field by measuring and coring trees and collecting leaf samples, and will also assist with processing these samples in the lab. Tasks will include DNA extraction and measuring tree cores after sanding them, as well as data entry.

Schedule Overview: Total hours worked will be 80 hours per 2-week period. Shifts may be 10 days on with four days off (10/4) or five days on with two days off (5/2). Depending on the requirements of the various projects, the schedule worked may change. Work days may include weekends and longer than typical days. This will be a combination of field and lab work.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Valid, non-graduated class 5 driver's license issued in Canada or the United States and comfortable driving a truck.
- Authorized to work in Canada.
- Ability and willingness to travel and work in the field for up to 10 days at a time, including outdoor tasks in challenging conditions such as inclement weather, heat, uneven terrain, and exposure to biting insects.

- Ability and willingness to carry equipment in field sites such as heavy backpacks, in uneven terrain.
- Comfortable camping in remote areas with a team.

Desired Qualifications:

- Experience in conducting field work, especially in remote locations.
- Excellent attention to detail, organization, and the ability to follow instructions and protocol.
- Pursuing or holding a degree in forestry or other related fields.
- First aid certification preferred (will help if necessary).
- Willingness to do defensive drivers training; a training session offered on campus as part of the on boarding process (2 hours).
- Interest in forestry, ecology, natural resources, or related fields.

To apply, please submit a resume and a cover letter that includes a description of your interests, experiences, qualifications, and contact information for 2-3 references. Please send your documents in PDF format to caroline.whitehouse@gov.ab.ca and abritz@ualberta.ca “Seasonal Forestry Research Assistant” in the email subject line.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis beginning March 4th 2024. You may reach out to caroline.whitehouse@gov.ab.ca and abritz@ualberta.ca with any questions.