

# Field Assistant: Boreal forest ecology

**Employer:** University of Regina, [Vanderwel Forest Dynamics Lab](#) & University of Alberta, [Ecosystem-based Forest Management Lab](#)

**Location:** Field sites across northern Saskatchewan and Manitoba

**Compensation:** \$2500 monthly

**Term:** May 27 – Aug 30

**Description:** This research project will collect both aerial and ground-based data to better understand how tree demography is related to moisture availability in the interior of western Canada. We will use Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) and Terrestrial Laser Scanning (TLS) systems to carry out 3D surveys of forest canopies across a regional network of research plots in the boreal forest region of Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

**Work Environment:** Under the supervision of graduate students, successful candidates will assist in performing UAV and TLS surveys, and in conducting ground-based measurements of forest plot structure. The field team will travel frequently to new sites and stay in various campgrounds throughout the field season. Candidates should bring a positive attitude and contribute as needed to daily tasks in the field and in camp.

Field work can be physically demanding, often requiring long days, hiking with a heavy pack, and difficult working conditions including inclement weather, heat, and insects. The position will require driving long distances on rural highways and unimproved roads, often in areas without cell reception. Though we will take a proactive approach toward safety and personal well-being, applicants should be prepared to meet these challenges.

**Schedule:** The team will work 20 days/month and an average of 8 hours/day on an irregular schedule, depending on the needs of the project. Camping accommodations will include a trailer and tents. A small food allowance is provided.

## Required Qualifications:

- Post-secondary education in biology, forestry, environmental science, geography, or a related field
- Ability to work outdoors in difficult conditions.
- Ability to carry a heavy backpack and/or equipment.
- Valid, non-graduated driver's license

**Desired Qualifications:** All interested persons are encouraged to apply, regardless of experience.

- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Experience collecting data for scientific studies.
- Ability to precisely follow written protocols.
- Excellent organizational skills and attention to detail
- Experience with first aid and managing risks in remote, outdoor settings.
- Experience driving with a trailer.

**Application procedure:** To apply, please send a resume, cover letter describing your interest, experiences, and qualifications, and contact information for 2-3 references to [Maamouri@ualberta.ca](mailto:Maamouri@ualberta.ca) and [mks055@uregina.ca](mailto:mks055@uregina.ca). Please send your documents in PDF format.

**Closing date:** April 7th