



Outreach Notice

INTERDISCIPLINARY
RESEARCH FORESTER, GS-0460;
RESEARCH ECONOMIST, GS-0110
GS 13/14

The Forest Inventory and Analysis Unit of the USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station is recruiting for a Research Forester or Research Economist position located in Blacksburg, Virginia. **Only one position will be filled.** This position is targeted for the GS-13/14 grade level, with an approximate salary range of \$81,823 to \$125,695. This is a full-time, permanent appointment.

THE POSITION

The mission of the Forest Inventory and Analysis Unit (SRS-FIA-4801) is “to conduct a program of research to improve the understanding of Southern forest ecosystems through inventories and analyses of the status and trends in resource conditions, use, productivity, and sustainability; and to conduct research to provide improved technology for timely and accurate resource inventories.”

The Unit is part of the National Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Program, which is authorized by the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978, as amended by the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (“Farm Bill”) to make and keep current a comprehensive inventory and analysis of the present and prospective conditions of and requirements for the renewable resources of the forest and rangelands of the US. Within SRS-4801, the National Timber Products Output (TPO) Center in support of the National FIA Program is charged with increasing the efficiency, increasing the precision, expanding the scope of FIA and assessing status and trends in the use and condition of the nation’s forest resources. This group conducts relevant research that helps define, quantify, and understand the social and economic dimensions of wood and non-wood usage from US forests in order to promote sustainable forest management that meets the current and future needs of landowners, communities, and society.

The scientist is a supervisor within SRS FIA Program, and will provide direction for the National TPO Center in support of the National FIA Program. The goals of the National TPO Center are to conduct relevant research that helps define, quantify, and understand the social and economic dimensions of wood and non-wood product usage from US forests in order to promote sustainable forest management that meets the current and future needs of landowners, communities, and society. In addition, the Center will support National FIA leadership with new and emerging issues while assisting with the regional FIA TPO programs in maintaining the needs of the baseline TPO information needs.

OFFICE LOCATION

The incumbent will be located in USDA Forest Service office space at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg, Virginia and will be supervised by the Deputy Program Manager, Southern Research Station Forest Inventory and Analysis, headquartered in Knoxville, Tennessee.

AREA INFORMATION (from http://www.vt.edu/where_we_are/blacksburg/index.html)

[Blacksburg](#), some 12,000 acres nestled on a plateau between the Blue Ridge and Allegheny mountains, is special. Home to about 41,700 local residents, the town is considered small by most any standard — but don't let its size or location fool you.

Because of the town's award-winning services, reasonable cost of living, safety, moderate climate, and abundant leisure activities, Blacksburg is consistently ranked among the country's best places to live and has earned a reputation nationwide as a well-managed, stable, and forward-looking community.

Vibrant and engaging, Blacksburg's [downtown](#) offers more than 150 unique stores, art galleries, and eclectic restaurants. The area's wide red-brick sidewalks, Victorian street lamps, and park benches encourage foot traffic and make meeting folks easy.

Quick facts:

- In 2011, Bloomberg Businessweek named Blacksburg [the best place](#) in the United States to raise children.
- A 2010 Wall Street Journal report ranked Virginia Tech among the top 25 schools for "best-qualified" graduates.
- A high-tech, professional environment, Blacksburg is one of the most "wired" communities on the planet, offering mobile connection to the Internet from anywhere in town.
- In the National Citizens Survey, Blacksburg residents gave the highest ratings to their town's appearance, openness, and acceptance, as well as its many cultural opportunities, safety, and low crime rate.
- Blacksburg has been ranked among the nation's best places to live by *Blue Ridge Country Magazine*, *Men's Journal*, *50 Best Small Southern Towns*, *The Sporting News*, and *Retirement Places Rated*.
- *Outside Magazine* ranked Blacksburg a top-10 "dream town" for outdoors enthusiasts because of its proximity to the Appalachian Trail and the Washington-Jefferson National Forest. The area's natural resources for hiking, biking, whitewater rafting, and climbing are phenomenal.
- The nationally accredited [Virginia Tech Police Department](#) operates 24-hours a day and provides full police service to the university community.
- Blacksburg, along with [Christiansburg](#) and [Radford](#) and including [Giles](#), [Montgomery](#), and [Pulaski](#) counties, is considered a Metropolitan Statistical Area by the U.S. Census Bureau.

- Virginia Tech's [Corporate Research Center](#) (CRC) hosts more than 100 technology-based companies, as well as the Edward Via Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine, contributing to Blacksburg's high-tech, professional environment.
- The award-winning [Blacksburg Transit](#) (BT), which provides town-wide public transportation at a reasonable cost, also furnishes a game day shuttle for football and basketball games.

For more information about this position, please contact James T. Vogt, Deputy Program Manager, Southern Research Station Forest Inventory and Analysis, at (865) 862-2035 or by email at jtvogt@fs.fed.us.

If interested in receiving email or telephone notification of this job opening, please complete the form below and return it **by July 31, 2013**.

Outreach Response Form

USDA Forest Service
Southern Research Station

**RESEARCH FORESTER, GS-0460;
RESEARCH ECONOMIST, GS-0110
GS 13/14 (only 1 position will be filled)
Location: Blacksburg, VA**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Current Federal Employee? Yes _____ No _____

Current title/series/grade/location: _____

Current type of appointment: _____

(e.g., Career, Career-Conditional, Excepted, Excepted VRA, etc)

To obtain more information about this position please contact:

James T. Vogt, Deputy Program Manager

USDA Forest Service

4700 Old Kingston Pike

Knoxville, TN 37919

E-mail: jtvogt@fs.fed.us

Phone: (865) 862-2035

It is anticipated that the vacancy announcement will be posted on OPM's USA Jobs website (www.usajobs.opm.gov). To request a vacancy announcement when it is available, please complete this form and mail or email to James Vogt at the above address **by July 31, 2013**.

The USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.