

**Opportunity Title:** USFS Postdoctoral Scholar Fellowship

**Opportunity Reference Code:** USDA-USFS-2023-0023

**Organization** U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

**Reference Code** USDA-USFS-2023-0023

**How to Apply** *Connect with ORISE...on the GO!* Download the new ORISE GO mobile app in the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#) to help you stay engaged, connected, and informed during your ORISE experience and beyond!

A complete application package consists of:

- An application
- Transcript(s) – For this opportunity, an unofficial transcript or copy of the student academic records printed by the applicant or by academic advisors from internal institution systems may be submitted. Selected candidate must provide proof of completion of the degree before the appointment can start. Click [Here](#) for detailed information about acceptable transcripts.
- A current resume/CV, including Cover Letter (please upload with CV/resume)
- Two educational or professional recommendations. At least one recommendation must be submitted in order for the mentor to view your application.

All documents must be in English or include an official English translation.

**Application Deadline** 4/1/2023 3:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

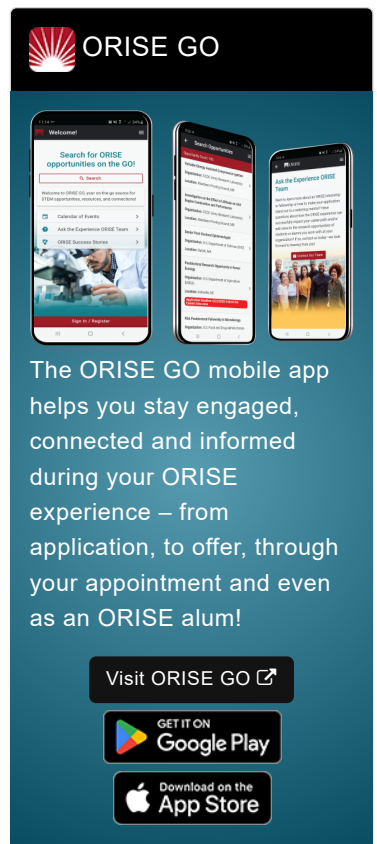
**Description** \*Applications will be reviewed on a rolling-basis.

**USFS Office/Lab and Location:** This fellowship is available at the Juneau Forest Sciences Lab with the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service's (USFS) Pacific Northwest (PNW) Research Station, located in Juneau, Alaska.

At the heart of the U.S. Forest Service's mission is their purpose. Everything they do is intended to help sustain forests and grasslands for present and future generations. Why? Because their stewardship work supports nature in sustaining life. This is the purpose that drives the agency's mission and motivates their work across the agency. It's been there from the agency's very beginning, and it still drives them. To advance the mission and serve their purpose, the U.S. Forest Service balances the short and long-term needs of people and nature by: working in collaboration with communities and our partners; providing access to resources and experiences that promote economic, ecological, and social vitality; connecting people to the land and one another; and delivering world-class science, technology and land management.


The mission of the PNW Research Station is to develop and deliver knowledge and innovative technology to improve the health and use of the Nation's forests and rangelands.


**Research Project:** The fellow will contribute research as part of a multi-disciplinary team investigating even-aged forest dynamics and second growth forest management on the Tongass National Forest in Southeast Alaska, the nation's largest tract of coastal temperate rainforest. With the cessation of old growth timber harvest on US Forest Service lands in the region, forest management across the Tongass National Forest is now more


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than ever focused on balancing the co-benefits of wildlife, subsistence, and timber objectives in second growth forest stands. The Tongass-Wide Young Growth Studies (TWYGS) program serves as a flagship adaptive management program in the region and incorporates four experimental modules designed to evaluate timber stand improvement treatments across a gradient of forest ages distributed throughout Southeast Alaska. Experimental treatments were completed in 2006 and three cycles of monitoring data are now available to investigate even-aged forest successional trajectories and forest ecology, timber production, wildlife foraging ecology, biodiversity, and subsistence harvest in second growth forest stands. The goal of the team is to promote collaboration across disciplines and produce basic and applied research products that serve wildlife, subsistence, and timber resource management in Southeast Alaska.

**Learning Objectives:** The fellow will be dedicated to data management, analysis, and production of durable science products and have the opportunity to enhance their project management, analytical, and communication skills by planning research tasks and setting project timelines, performing data analyses, presenting research findings to scientists and land managers at local and national professional meetings, drafting peer-review manuscripts, and contributing to web-based research findings storyboard. The fellow will report to the research forester at the Juneau Forest Sciences Lab, be mentored by a vibrant multi-disciplinary team, and benefit from exposure to the Forest Service's Pacific Northwest Research Station. The fellow may explore professional development and training opportunities including travel to meetings, workshops, and conferences.

**Mentor:** The mentor for this opportunity is Kellen Nelson ([Kellen.Nelson@usda.gov](mailto:Kellen.Nelson@usda.gov)). If you have questions about the nature of the research, please contact the mentor.

**Anticipated Appointment Start Date:** May 1, 2023. Start date is flexible and will depend on a variety of factors.

**Appointment Length:** The appointment will initially be for one year, but may be extended upon recommendation of USFS and is contingent on the availability of funds. **Funding is currently available for two years.**

**Level of Participation:** The appointment is full-time.

**Participant Stipend:** The participant will receive a monthly stipend commensurate with educational level and experience. **The current stipend for this opportunity will be commensurate with a GS 11, Step 1 for the duty station selected. For example, \$77,898 for Juneau, Alaska. This position offers a health insurance allowance, a travel/training allowance, and \$5,000 for relocation costs. Relocation expenses will be used for the fellow to travel to Southeast Alaska if a remote duty station is selected.**

**Citizenship Requirements:** This opportunity is available to U.S. citizens

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only.

**ORISE Information:** This program, administered by ORAU through its contract with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to manage the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE), was established through an interagency agreement between DOE and USFS. Participants do not become employees of USDA, USFS, DOE or the program administrator, and there are no employment-related benefits. Proof of health insurance is required for participation in this program. Health insurance can be obtained through ORISE.

**Questions:** Please visit our [Program Website](#). After reading, if you have additional questions about the application process please email [USForestService@orise.orau.gov](mailto:USForestService@orise.orau.gov) and include the reference code for this opportunity.

**Qualifications** The qualified candidate should have received a doctoral degree in one of the relevant fields (e.g. Natural Resources, Forestry, Wildlife Biology, Natural Resource Management, Natural Sciences, Ecology, Biology, Environmental Science), or be currently pursuing the degree with completion before the appointment start date. Degree must have been received within the past five years.

Preferred Skills:

- Coursework may include forestry, biometrics, plant ecology, wildlife biology, quantitative ecology, community ecology, landscape ecology, ecosystem science, biological statistics, applied mathematics, and/or geographic information systems. The incumbent should have demonstrated experience presenting research in a professional setting and publishing research in peer-reviewed journals.
- The participant will be responsible for preparing, processing, and performing statistical analyses on large multi-year datasets, and preparing manuscripts for peer-reviewed publication.
- Strong candidates for the fellowship will have:
  - PhD in natural resources (forestry, wildlife biology, natural resource management), natural sciences (ecology, biology, environmental science), or related discipline.
  - Extensive knowledge related to forest community and ecosystem dynamics and the effects of forest management at tree, stand, and landscape scales.
  - Extensive experience using R, Python, SQL, or similar coding languages to manipulate and analyze tabular data. Demonstrated proficiency in parametric and nonparametric statistical modeling, multivariate statistics, and/or machine learning in frequentist and/or Bayesian statistical paradigms.
  - A record of publishing scientific articles in peer-review journals.
  - Ability to communicate highly technical information to non-technical audiences.
  - Strong organizational skills and the ability to balance multiple

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projects simultaneously.

- Ability to effectively synthesize scientific information, generate new ideas and methods to accomplish project goals, and a willingness to learn new techniques.
- A collegial and collaborative working style.

**Eligibility**

- **Citizenship:** U.S. Citizen Only

**Requirements**

- **Degree:** Doctoral Degree received within the last 60 months or currently pursuing.
- **Discipline(s):**
  - **Environmental and Marine Sciences** ([6](#) )
  - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([8](#) )
  - **Mathematics and Statistics** ([1](#) )
- **Veteran Status:** Veterans Preference, degree received within the last 120 month(s).