Post-doctoral Opportunity

The Department of Forestry and Natural Resources (DFNR) at the University of Kentucky is seeking qualified applicants for a two-year post-doctoral position. The post-doctoral researcher will lead ongoing research evaluating use of LiDAR information to describe vegetation structure and microclimate data following different silvicultural treatments.

As a part of a multi-disciplinary research project, the post-doctoral researcher will: i) lead efforts to collect detailed post-harvest stand structure and forest microclimate data, and ii) analyze LiDAR data covering three study sites to derive stand structure metrics related to wildlife species occupancy and use as well as the spatial patterning of microclimate conditions and associated responses by tree regeneration. Project efforts will have implications in the evaluation of threatened and endangered bat habitat characteristics resulting from contrasting canopy retention patterns following silvicultural practice.

Desired applicants must have at least one degree in forestry, natural resources or a field closely related to the research project. Applicants should have demonstrated skills and experience in vegetation measurements, advanced statistical analysis, and GIS and LiDAR data. Advanced understanding ArcGIS, R software is required and experience with database management and computer programming is preferred.

The DFNR is one of 14 academic departments in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. Departmental activities include undergraduate and graduate instruction in forestry and natural resources, research, and Cooperative Extension Service programs encompassing a wide range of forestry and natural resource management interests. For information about the Department of Forestry and the University of Kentucky, see www.ca.uky.edu/forestry and www.uky.edu. For information about living in Lexington, see www.lexingtonky.gov.

Application deadline is March 1st, 2019. For questions regarding the application, details about the research project or any other inquiries, please contact:

Dr. John Lhotka  
Associate Professor of Silviculture  
john.lhotka@uky.edu  
Ph: 859-257-9701

Dr. Marco Contreras  
Associate Professor of Forest Management  
marco.contreras@uky.edu  
Ph: 859-257-5666