Graduate Research Assistant (M.S. in Natural Resource Sciences) at Washington State University: Designing Early Seral Ecosystems for inland Northwest Huckleberry Culture and Management

The School of the Environment at Washington State University seeks a motivated, passionate, and field-oriented student to pursue a Master of Science (Natural Resource Sciences) involving silvicultural development of productive stands of black huckleberry (Vaccinium membranaceum) on forest sites in northern Idaho and/or northeastern Washington State. The selected candidate will work with Dr. Mark E. Swanson (Associate Professor of Silviculture and Landscape Ecology). The project will use a rigorous and replicated experimental design to examine the effects of proximity to down woody debris, site preparation (prescribed fire), and characteristics of huckleberry seedlings on planted huckleberry survival and growth. An ideal candidate would have a strong background in forest ecology with an emphasis on field botany. Ability to travel by foot and vehicle in forest landscapes is essential. Candidates must be able to work independently in the field or office setting. Additional desirable qualifications include skills or credentials in applied statistics, cultural fire, wildland fire, ethnobotany, horticulture, or related fields. Funding for this research assistantship is provided by Washington State University’s Emerging Research Issues for Washington Agriculture. The project is based in Pullman, Washington and will begin fall semester of 2021. Please send a letter of interest and curriculum vitae to Mark Swanson (markswanson@wsu.edu) by June 21st, 2021.