Career Opportunity – Transforming Forest Management

Spatial Analyst

Job Description: Balancing the needs of fire adapted communities with the requirements of resilient wildlands is an exercise in tradeoffs. The cultivation of data and application of science into strategic frameworks that enable tradeoff consensus is critical for ecosystem planning through treatments. However, we are out of time. Many of our wildlands are at a tipping point and traditional multi-jurisdictional planning and monitoring isn't currently efficient or adaptable enough to keep up with the rates of change we are all experiencing. Vibrant Planet's Land Tender, with USDA's FORSYS engine embedded, is an optimized decision support system for hazard mitigation and ecological restoration across all natural systems so we can help communities and managers get to implementation fast and effectively adapt those plans when conditions inevitably change. We need additional talent for Land Tender's growing demand.

We are seeking an experienced, technically skilled, and motivated individual with great communication skills to help science staff in Vibrant Planet's Resilience Group improve and further automate data pipelines/workflows related to development of ecological, biophysical, and anthropogenic datasets required by Land Tender. While the position is mostly virtual, some travel to Vibrant Planet headquarters in North Lake Tahoe is required. The majority of this work occurs in the western United States, but software deployment opportunities may occur across the world.

Responsibilities:

- Development of geospatial data and modeling frameworks
- Spatial and temporal data analysis
- Data quality assurance and quality control
- Assistance with geospatial decision support application development
- Geospatial data curation and normalization (collection, processing, and cataloging)
- Forest growth and fire modeling
- Support of database development and management
- Contribution to proposal development for new business opportunities

Desired Qualifications:

- Enjoys complex, multi-disciplinary problem-solving and has excellent attention to detail.

- Extensive experience in programming languages such as Python, R, SQL.

- Extensive experience in building automation frameworks for environmental science applications such as data QA/QC, modeling, geospatial analysis.

- Experience working in environmental sciences and/or management, such as forestry, applied ecology, water resources/hydrology, wildlife management, etc.

- Strong background in using established GIS software (such as ESRI's ArcMap or QGIS) for cartographic and geospatial analysis.

- Excellent communication skills (oral, written)

- Experience in geospatial database development and management.

- Familiarity with land management decision support datasets, models, software, and workflows. For example, LandFIRE, Forest Vegetation Simulator (FVS), Landscape Disturbance and Succession Models (LDSM), FlamMap, FSim, FORSYS, Ecosystem Management Decision Support (EMDS), Google Earth Engine, Interagency Fuel Treatment Decision Support System (IFTDSS).

- Understanding of Ecology in dry forests and Mediterranean environments and ecological forest management; ability to effectively communicate concepts to lay audiences.

- Familiarity with the geospatial requirements for forest treatment implementation and understanding of fuel reduction planning, post-fire restoration, treatment implementation, and monitoring challenges.

- Familiarity with policies related to procedures for environmental review and impact analysis, such as the National Environmental Policy Act, California Environmental Quality Act, etc.

- Familiarity with remote sensing technologies.

Duty Requirements:
- Full time, year-round employment
- Virtual position with an operational independent/home office with sufficient internet speeds

Compensation:
- $110 - 130k base salary (dependent on experience)

Benefits:
- Health insurance
- Unlimited PTO policy
- 401k
- Company equity

Equal Opportunity Employer: Vibrant Planet is committed to diversity. We encourage applicants from all cultures, races, colors, religions, sexes, national or regional origins, ages, disability status, sexual orientation, gender identity, military, or other status protected by law.

Applications: Please send a curriculum vitae or resume with cover letter to sky@vibrantplanet.net by May 9th, 2022.