

Postdoctoral Scholar Position: Wildfire Threats to Water Security in the Pacific Northwest

This position is part of an interdisciplinary project investigating how changing wildfire regimes may present threats to municipal drinking water security for communities in the Pacific Northwest. This project is funded by the US Forest Service and is in collaboration with multiple other universities, including Oregon State University (OSU), Colorado State University (CSU), University of Idaho (UI), University of Nevada-Reno (UNR), and other federal agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency.

We are looking for someone who has experience synthesizing interdisciplinary information to explore community and ecosystem risk and/or resilience to wildfire within the context of drinking water management in the region. The postdoc will have access to substantial existing data from past and ongoing studies, a network of unique study sites, and a dynamic team of investigators. The scholar will be expected to work independently as well as collaboratively as a member of the research group, assist in conceptualizing and evaluating integrative questions across disciplinary research components, work with and analyze a wide range of quantitative data (spatial, tabular, biophysical, socioeconomic), and publish research results. Prior experience conducting interdisciplinary work, or using systems thinking approaches for understanding socio-environmental risk or resilience, or enthusiasm for obtaining these qualifications, is also strongly desired. This is a two year position with the possibility of a third year of funding. The position would be based in Pullman, WA at Washington State University. The postdoctoral scholar should be willing to travel to participate in stakeholder meetings in Oregon and Washington. We are looking for this person to start by August 2024.

Requirements

- PhD in hydrology, engineering, ecology, environmental science, geography, or a related discipline;
- Experience working with interdisciplinary teams and data;
- Excellent written, verbal, and computational skills.

Preferred skills

- Experience with systems dynamics modeling or other systems thinking approaches;
- Experience assessing socio-environmental risk and resilience to disturbances;
- Experience working with spatial data and GIS
- Proficiency in translating and communicating research results to the general public and/or managers.

To express interest in the position, prospective postdocs should contact Dr. Padowski (julie.padowski@wsu.edu) prior to beginning a formal application and should email a description of research interests and professional goals and a CV.

We encourage applicants from any race, color, religion, ethnic, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, age, or veteran status.