



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Pacific Northwest  
Research Station

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## OUTREACH NOTICE

### Pacific Northwest Research Station

#### Research Social Scientist (Quantitative) GS-0101-12

Olympia Forestry Sciences Laboratory  
3625 93<sup>rd</sup> Ave SW  
Olympia, WA 98512

#### About the position

PNW Research Station is seeking to hire a Research Social Scientist in Olympia, Washington in the near future. The full performance level of this Research Social Scientist is GS-101-12. A Ph.D. in a social science field (e.g. sociology, geography, political science etc.) with an interest and ability in quantitative analysis is required.

The Incumbent will reside in the Goods, Services and Values Program (PNW 2665) with a duty station in Olympia, Washington. The mission of the Program is to conduct and communicate research to advance understanding of relationships among people and forest and rangeland ecosystems. The unit conducts interdisciplinary research in five problem areas:

- 1: Improve knowledge of fundamental social and economic processes and their interactions with the natural environment.
- 2: Examine the roles of policies, programs, and other institutions in interactions between people and natural resources.
- 3: Describe and analyze the implications of changing demographics, socio-economics, and technology on natural resources and their management.
- 4: Describe the capacity of dynamic landscapes to provide for evolving human wants and needs.
- 5: Conduct and use integrated multidisciplinary research to support development of management approaches that account for interactions among socioeconomic, ecological, and physical factors.

The Program's researchers work from Alaska, Washington, Oregon, nationally, internationally and in partnerships with other Forest Service researchers, university scientists, policy makers and managers with the ultimate goal of improving understanding about the effectiveness, efficiency, and fairness of government policies, management, decision-making processes, and programs. The researchers work towards this goal by helping policymakers, managers, and the public understand the variety of available options and the ways they interact with and manage natural resources.

Research will be in one or more of the following areas: (1) ecosystem management, particularly how human behavior affects ecosystems and associated goods and services policies, and regulations; (2) analyses of environmental justice in the provision of ecosystem goods and services; (3) how the natural environment affects human systems and/or (4) analyses of social and environmental factors affecting peoples' behavior and management of ecosystems. Specific research topics may include analyses of



strategies, policies or regulations relating to climate change, water systems, riparian restoration, land use change and development, ecosystem services, cultural ecosystem services, recreation behavior.

Required research approaches may often require involvement in interdisciplinary studies using a diverse range of quantitative social science research methods. The scientist must have the ability to integrate their work with ecologists and other biophysical scientist. Research methods may include, social surveys and choice modeling, cost-benefit analysis, geo-spatial analysis and spatial statistics, and demographic analysis. The scientist is responsible for final decisions on the appropriate research approach, rigorous analysis of the data, and developing appropriate means to transfer knowledge to scientists, managers and citizens. The scientist is expected to have reasonable familiarity with categorical data analysis methods, sample survey design methods, multivariate and ordination methods and use of such statistical software as SAS or R. The scientist is expected to identify, integrate, and extend ideas and approaches from a variety of perspectives in order to develop new knowledge to make a real difference in natural resource management and improved quality of life for residents across the urban to rural continuum.

The duty station is the Forestry Sciences Laboratory located in Olympia, WA. The Olympia Forestry Sciences Laboratory houses researchers and support personnel from three programs in the Pacific Northwest Research Station. Researchers there primarily focus on topics relevant to the western wet forest ecosystems, hydrology and fisheries research, landscape and vegetation ecology, and wildlife.

**We are looking for an individual who:**

- Is interested in helping to inform forest management and policy, including ecosystem restoration, wildfire management, and the provision of ecosystem services to the public.
- Has an interest and ability to work well with diverse groups of people from a variety of disciplines
- Has familiarity with a variety of empirical/quantitative research methods
- Is a team player who enjoys working with others to accomplish a common goal

**IF YOU'RE INTERESTED...**

The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to determine the potential applicant pool for for this position. Responses received from this outreach notice will be relied upon to make this determination.

**Interested applicants must complete the attached form and return to Simon Kihia at [smkihia@fs.fed.us](mailto:smkihia@fs.fed.us). Those desiring further information about the position may inquire via the email listed above.**

**About the Pacific Northwest Research Station:**

PNW Research Station is one of seven research units in the USDA Forest Service. The USDA Forest Service conducts the most extensive and productive program of integrated forestry research in the world. The scientific information produced by the Station has application on public, private, and tribal lands in the Pacific Northwest (Alaska, Oregon and Washington) and elsewhere in the United States and other parts of the world. The Station's programs reflect the changing character of the questions that science is being asked to help answer.

PNW Research Station has approximately 400 permanent and temporary employees in professional, administrative, research, technical, and clerical positions. There are six Program Managers that oversee program organizations, and nine laboratories which provide research. The laboratories are located in Oregon, Washington, and Alaska. The Station is also involved in international relations with foreign

governmental agencies and universities in many research areas. The work activities of the Station attract considerable interest from Congress, special interest groups, and the public. The Station Director's Office is located in downtown Portland.

**Community Information:**

To learn more about Olympia, go to <http://olympiawa.gov/>

*To be considered, applicants must be U.S. citizens.  
Thank you for your interest in this position*

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**Outreach Interest**  
**PNW Research Social Scientist (Quantitative)**  
**GS-0110-12**

If you are interested in this position, complete this form and send to Simon Kihia at [smkihia@fs.fed.us](mailto:smkihia@fs.fed.us) by July 21, 2014.

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYMENT**

Are you currently a Federal Employee?      Yes       No

**If Yes:**

Name of your Agency & Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Current title/series/grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Appointment:      Permanent       Term       Temporary

**If No:**

Current Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Position Title & Salary: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Appointment:      Permanent       Term       Temporary

Are you eligible for appointment under any of the following special authorities?

- Former Peace Corps
- Person with Disabilities
- Student Employment Program
- Veteran with 30% Compensable Disability
- Veteran's Employment Opportunities Act of 1998
- Veteran's Readjustment
- Reinstatement Eligibility
- Other

*Thank-you for your interest in the position!*