

PhD research assistant, Auburn University, Alabama

I am seeking an ambitious candidate for a 3-year PhD program of research in the area of remote sensing of forest health, beginning Fall/Spring of 2022/2023. This is a full funded PhD assistantship in the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Environment at Auburn University. Current research in our Geospatial Analytics lab focuses on remote sensing applications in natural resources and forestry across multiple spatial scales, including the use of lidar from airborne and spaceborne platforms, to advance ecosystem sciences. The applicant hired to fill this position will conduct multi-scale research to detect and assess the movement of an emerging fungal pathogen of pine trees in the southeastern US. The PhD candidate will have a unique opportunity to learn and apply innovative remote sensing technologies and machine learning methods, including the acquisition and analysis of imagery and light detection and ranging (lidar) data from UAVs at the local scale, and integration of airborne lidar and satellite data for broader scale applications. They will also contribute to dissemination of results through scientific publications and conference presentations. This project is part of a large, interdisciplinary, and multi-institutional collaboration that includes graduate students, postdocs, and scientists. As such, the ability to communicate across disciplines is critical. Qualified backgrounds include forestry, ecology, geography, natural resources, or closely related fields. Skills in GIS and remote sensing are also essential to completing this project.

Required Qualifications:

- MS in Forestry, Ecology, or closely related field
- Strong communication skills in oral and written English
- Completed coursework in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and/or experience with remote sensing

Preferred Experience:

- Strong quantitative skills

How to Apply:

Interested individuals should contact Dr. Lana Narine at ln0005@auburn.edu. Please state “PhD Assistantship Position” in the email subject line and include: (i) your research interests (statement of interest), (ii) GRE and/or TOFEL scores and (iii) CV. Review if applicants will begin immediately and remain open until filled. [More information about our graduate program.](#)
[How to apply to CFWS’s Forestry Graduate Program.](#)