The University of Minnesota, Department of Forest Resources is seeking master's-level graduate students to participate in a research project assessing the impacts of increased woody biomass removal on forest productivity and carbon storage in aspen-dominated ecosystems of northern Minnesota. These positions are part of a project establishing several large-scale, silvicultural manipulations to assess the ecological impacts of different levels of woody biomass removal, as well as the importance of site-level legacies (leave trees and harvest residues) in maintaining the resiliency and sustainability of aspen ecosystems. Research will involve extensive field work and data analysis, including the collection and analysis of forest soils, vegetation, and fine and coarse woody debris data. In addition, work will also include the development of preliminary models to evaluate the long-term impacts of these treatments on carbon and nutrient cycles. These positions will work closely with scientists at the University of Minnesota and the USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station. The positions are available for Summer/Fall 2009.

The ideal candidates will have a B.S. in forest ecology, forestry, silviculture, forest soils or a closely related field, as well as a strong work ethic, demonstrated quantitative capabilities, a record of leadership, and a proven ability to work independently.

Interested candidates should contact:

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