Postdoctoral Position in Global Change Biology/Ecosystem Ecology
Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa & Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry, USDA Forest Service

A postdoctoral position is available for a highly qualified individual to join our research group studying the impact of rising temperature and land-use change on terrestrial carbon cycling. The long-term goal of this project, funded by the National Science Foundation and the USDA Forest Service, is to understand how rising temperatures and land-use change interact to impact the carbon sink strength of terrestrial ecosystems. The initial phase of this research will focus on carbon input, allocation, and loss across a land-use/temperature matrix in the newly created Hawaii Experimental Tropical Forest on the Island of Hawaii. In addition to managing planned projects that focus on ecosystem carbon balance, the successful applicant will be expected to address complimentary research areas including: biological response of terrestrial vegetation to rising temperature; and the physiological basis for climate effects on the carbon allocation strategies of plants. Applicants should possess: strong quantitative skills; potential for publishing in high quality journals; experience in ecosystem science and/or plant ecophysiology; and experience quantifying carbon pools and fluxes in the field. Prior experience in Hawaiian and/or tropical ecosystems is a plus but is not required.

The successful candidate will be a University of Hawai‘i employee, but will be located at the Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry (IPIF), USDA Forest Service in Hilo, Hawaii. IPIF is housed in a new, state-of-the-art facility 25 miles from research sites in the Hawaii Experimental Tropical Forest. Hilo is a scenic, affordable, cultural, and laid-back town with ready access to a variety of outdoor activities.

The initial appointment is for one year with full benefits and a competitive salary. Continued funding is available for a second year given satisfactory progress. The anticipated start date is late summer of 2008. Please direct any questions regarding the position to Creighton M. Litton (litton@hawaii.edu) and Christian P. Giardina (cgiardina@fs.fed.us) with “Global change postdoc question” in the subject line.

The position will be officially advertised through the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa in late August, 2008. If you would like to apply at that time, please send a cover letter outlining your educational and research background and interests, a curriculum vitae, and contact information of three professional references (names, email, phone number, and mailing address) as a single PDF document to litton@hawaii.edu with “Global change postdoc application” in the subject line by August 15, 2008. We will contact qualified applicants soon thereafter with the official job number and details for submitting an online application.