



USDA Forest Service Resource Assistant Program

Position. Social Science Research Fellow

Duration. 8 Month Fellowship (32 weeks): Starting July 2024 through February 2025. Final timeframe dependent upon start date.

Location. US Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station locations including:

- Juneau Forestry Sciences Lab, Juneau, Alaska (preferred location);
- Olympia Forestry Sciences Lab, Olympia, Washington;
- Corvallis Forestry Science Lab, Corvallis, Oregon; or
- Remote

Reports To. The social science research fellow will report to Nicole Grewe, PhD, Supervisory Social Scientist and Program Manager, Juneau Forestry Science Laboratory.

Job Overview

This research fellowship is with the US Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station. The primary purpose of the fellowship is to provide social science and economics research assistance with focus on Southeast Alaska including studying community socioeconomic conditions, forest products markets, and cultural resources. A secondary purpose of the fellowship is to assist with internal and external stakeholder engagement in the development of a long-range plan of research that addresses Southeast Alaska priority research needs.

This research fellowship provides opportunity to join a team of sociologists, economists, and anthropologists conducting research that informs national forest planning and is also relevant in scholarly venues. A successful research fellow will provide research assistance while also supporting stakeholder engagement and collaborating with senior scientists to identify a long-range plan of research for Southeast Alaska. This research fellowship provides a unique opportunity to engage in Forest Service research, planning, and collaboration. This work helps meet overall Forest Service goals of sustaining our nation's forest and grasslands and delivering benefits for the public.

Responsibilities and Duties

This research fellowship conducts applied social science and economics research that facilitates understanding of connections between people and natural environments including the following primary duties and responsibilities.



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- Performs a variety of duties in support of senior scientists and professionals engaged in social science and economics research focused on Southeast Alaska.
- Collaborates with a range of partners including tribal and inter-tribal organizations, community leaders, land and natural resource managers, and scientists to identify long-range priority research needs.
- Conducts literature reviews with focus on forest products industry, cultural resources, and community resiliency and well-being.
- Applies qualitative and quantitative social science methods including surveys, interviews, ethnographic studies, focus groups, and participatory research to generate primary data.
- Collects and analyzes secondary data from public data sources including US Census Bureau, State of Alaska, US Department of Agriculture, and tribal governments.
- Assists dissemination of research results to peers, land and natural resource managers, policymakers, and the public via a variety of formats including applied reports, refereed journal manuscripts, and presentations.
- Travel to Juneau, Alaska (and surrounding communities) is expected approximately 50 percent of time if position is remote or located in Olympia, WA or Corvallis, OR.
- All activities conducted in a team environment based on values of interdependence, inclusivity, and mutual respect.

Qualifications

- Post-secondary degree in sociology, economics, anthropology, demography, rural development, indigenous studies, community planning, or human dimensions of natural resources.
- One-year specialized experience conducting applied social science or economics including identifying research topics, defining study objectives, organizing and conducting research, collecting and analyzing data, interpreting results, and presenting findings via written documents, presentations, or other demonstrations.

Minimum Requirements

- Completion of post-secondary degree at an accredited university.
- US citizenship or permanent residency as confirmed by background check, if selected.
- Participation in US Forest Service Orientation Training scheduled for June 2024