



USDA Forest Service Resource Assistant Program

Position. Forest Health Fellow

Duration. 6 Month Fellowship (26 weeks): Starting February 2023 - August 2023 (dates are dependent upon the start date)

Location. Forest Genetics, Health, and Productivity (SRS-4160), Lexington, KY

Reports To. Project Leader of SRS-4160

Job Overview

The Forest Health Fellow will work with station and university scientists engaged in forest health research and outreach to develop new avenues of investigation on social perception and acceptance of biotechnology and genome science. Success will include a draft paper on the topic, organized session(s) on the topic at one or more research meetings or outreach webinars, and participation in one research project related to the topic. The meetings and webinars will include USFS participation (R&D, NFS and SPF), including pre-event planning and post-event follow-ups.

Responsibilities and Duties

Review literature on social perceptions and acceptance of biotechnology and genome science in natural resources (Forestry, possibly including Fisheries and Wildlife).

Engage researchers in discussion and funding proposal development at the University of Kentucky, SRS, and other universities as needed on the topic of social perceptions and acceptance of biotechnology and genome science in natural resources.

Assist in organizing a meeting session on the topic of social perceptions and acceptance of biotechnology and genome science in natural resources. Develop and present content on the topic at the session and for other outreach opportunities as they present.

Travel will be typically less than 3 days per month.

Qualifications

MS or PhD in social or biological sciences with emphasis on natural resources.

Understanding of plant biotechnology and genomics and their applications in agriculture or natural resources.

Ability to communicate to a diverse audience—for example, from lab scientists to rural landowners to environmental enthusiasts.

Minimum Requirements



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- Completion of MS or PhD at an accredited college or university
- US citizenship or permanent residency. RAs must undergo a government background check if selected.
- Participation in US Forest Service Orientation Training scheduled for February 2023