The Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of Kentucky is seeking qualified individual to work on a research project on Economic Valuation of Forest Ecosystem Services. The position will be filled at the M.S. level.

**RESEARCH FOCUS:** Forests, as natural systems, if properly managed, yield a stream of benefits which are vital to humanity, such as timber, water purification, recreation opportunities, and biodiversity conservation. The full extent of economic values of these benefits in Kentucky is poorly documented and understood. Many natural resource management and policy decisions are based on economic values derived from the natural resource. In order to align sustainable forest management with economic imperatives it is critical to quantify economic values of ecosystem services provided by these forests.

**STIPEND:** A two-year scholarship funded either as Research or Teaching assistantship available. Teaching Assistantship include an annual stipend of $20,000 whereas stipend for Research Assistantship is $17,000. Both include tuition waivers and health insurance (for student only, family coverage available for an additional fee). In addition, the student will be responsible for some fees such as use of University recreational facilities, etc.

**STARTING DATE:** July 1 2020.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:** B.S. in forestry, forest economics, forest management, agricultural economics, natural resources management or closely related degree, with excellent performance in economics and quantitative courses (such as Calculus, Algebra, Statistics, Biostatistics) in addition to geospatial analytical techniques such as ArcGIS. A competitive GPA (above 3.5) and GRE scores of at least 310 (combined verbal reasoning and quantitative reasoning scores) with upper percentiles.

**APPLICATION:** The Department of Forestry and Natural Resources engages in interdisciplinary research, instruction, and Extension education to address sustainable management and conservation of natural resources of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and beyond. The Department has effective collaborative partnership with landowners, managers, and public agencies. Information about the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources is available at [http://forestry.ca.uky.edu/](http://forestry.ca.uky.edu/). Details about the graduate program are available at [http://forestry.ca.uky.edu/forestry-graduate-program](http://forestry.ca.uky.edu/forestry-graduate-program). Details of the application process are available at [http://forestry.ca.uky.edu/forest-and-natural-resource-sciences-graduate-program](http://forestry.ca.uky.edu/forest-and-natural-resource-sciences-graduate-program). Graduate Student Resources are available at [https://forestry.ca.uky.edu/graduate-student-resources](https://forestry.ca.uky.edu/graduate-student-resources). To be considered, only qualified and interested candidates who meet qualifications above must send: (i) curriculum vitae, (ii) transcripts, and (iii) GRE scores as pdf files to Dr. Thomas Ochuodho ([thomas.ochuodho@uky.edu](mailto:thomas.ochuodho@uky.edu)). The final candidate will be picked before January 20, 2020.
LOCATION: The Department of Forestry and Natural Resources is one of the 14 departments within the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment at University of Kentucky. University of Kentucky is a land grant institution with an enrollment of over 30,000 students and is located in Lexington, central Kentucky and about 76 miles east of Louisville, Kentucky and 80 miles south of Cincinnati, Ohio.

CONTACT:

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