

Rocky Mountain Research Station

USDA Forest Service

Moscow, ID

OPEN: December 14, 2015 CLOSE: January 29, 2016

**OUTREACH NOTICE**

**Student Trainee (Plant Pathologist).**

**GS-0499-7/9/11**

The Rocky Mountain Research Station (RMRS), Forest and Woodlands Ecosystems Science Program, will soon be advertising for a **Student Trainee (plant pathologist).** This Pathways Internship position is located on a Forest Service unit and serves as an Intern in support of a Forest Service research station. Specific disciplines covered in this position include plant pathology and related disciplines. This position is designed to provide a career-oriented introduction to the background, philosophy, concepts, and scope of the Forest Service Research and Development (R&D) functions and a practical understanding of the policies of the employing organization. Assignments are developmental in nature and, in conjunction with formal education from an accredited educational institution, the Intern will gain the necessary competencies, potentially leading to conversion to a permanent research position in a plant pathology field. Work assignments are selected to ensure that the Intern receives on-the-job training and exposure to one or more program functions.

**DUTY STATION:** This position will be located at the RMRS Forestry Science Laboratory, in Moscow, ID. Interested candidates can visit the RMRS website at: [http://www.fs.fed.us./rmrs/](http://www.fs.fed.us./rmrs/%20) and the Forest and Woodlands Ecosystems Science website at: http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/forest-woodland/

For additional information about Moscow, ID please access the Moscow Chamber of Commerce at

*www.****moscowchamber****.com/*

**MAJOR DUTIES:**

Receives formal and on-the-job training in advanced skills, techniques, and procedures by performing a variety of productive assignments, such as phylogenetics, population genetics, genomics, and/or metagenomic studies of forest pathogens or other fungi. As training advances and proficiency is demonstrated, work assignments are increasingly more demanding, and are designed to provide experience in a wide variety of activities. On a scheduled basis, following the Pathways Participant Agreement, receives assignments in various Plant Pathology and R&D functions to gain an understanding of the various program concepts and operations, develop an understanding of the total mission as well as organizational/functional interrelationships, and develop a foundation for more specialized application of knowledge gained from on-the-job training assignments. Receives formal and on-the-job training in OPM, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, and R&D policies, rules, regulations, and procedures.

Contributes to the maintenance and records of the Moscow Fungal Culture Archive Collection. Assists in research studies to address issues related to plant pathology. Responsible for testing hypotheses developed in collaboration with research scientists. Assists in developing and validating of new methods for research studies. Analyzes data. Participates in research studies concerned with understanding the role of pathogens, microbes, forest hosts, and environmental interactions with forest diseases caused by diverse biotic agents and/or other forest health issues. Participates in the preparation of documents for publication. Attends seminars and conferences, assists with data preparation, and assists with preparation and delivery of oral or poster presentations. With the supervisor’s guidance, instruction, and approval, prepares drafts of grant proposals.

Orients, instructs, and collaborates with visiting scientists, post-doctoral associates, and graduate students in the use of laboratory techniques which the incumbent has mastered.  When required, provides technical supervision and efficient utilization of the help of part-time or lower-graded personnel to accomplish assigned work. In a trainee capacity, participates with research scientists in the development of new research information related to forest pathology. As a trainee, assists with technology transfer activities to inform forest management, user groups, and other scientists in the knowledge, techniques, and systems developed by plant pathology research.

For more information regarding duties for the position, please contact Ned Klopfenstein, Research Plant Pathologist, at 208-883-2310 or nklopfenstein@fs.fed.us.

**If you are interested in this opportunity, please fill out the attached Outreach Notice From and send to (nklopfenstein@fs.fed.us) by January 29, 2016.**

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION: The USDA Forest Service provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please contact the point of contact listed above. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

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**OUTREACH NOTICE FORM**

**Rocky Mountain Research Station**

Forestry Sciences Laboratory

Moscow, ID

Student Trainee (Plant Pathologist)

GS-0499-7/9/11

If you are interested in this opportunity, please complete this form and send it by e-mail to [nklopfenstein@fs.fed.us](mailto:nklopfenstein@fs.fed.us). (Please include “***GS-0499-7/9/11, Student Trainee Plant Pathologist Outreach***” on the subject line of your message.)

Please respond no later than **January 29, 2016**. The Pathways position will be advertised on the OPM USA Jobs website [www.usajobs.opm.gov](http://www.usajobs.opm.gov) shortly.

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

Name: **Date:**

**Address:       Phone:**

**Email:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Are you currently a Forest Service employee:** | YES |  | **NO** |  |

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| --- | --- |
| **Current title/series/grade/location/classification:** |  |

**(e.g., Career, Career-Conditional, Excepted-ANILCA, Excepted VRA, etc.)**

**Briefly describe why you will be a quality candidate for this position**: