

**Assistant Professor of Natural Resource Conservation & Management
Western Carolina University**

Faculty in the Department of Geosciences and Natural Resources (GNR) at Western Carolina University (WCU) are seeking applications for a 9-month, tenure-track, Assistant Professor of Natural Resource Conservation and Management position to begin August 2024.

We seek candidates with a background in forestry or a closely related field and are especially interested in candidates with a focus on fire ecology. Courses to be taught include forest management and silviculture as well as dendrology, natural resource measurements, and other topics related to the candidate's area of expertise. The teaching load also includes participation in WCU's general education curriculum. The successful candidate will demonstrate a strong commitment to excellence in teaching and the ability to develop a research program that provides experiential learning opportunities for our students as well as service to the community.

WCU was named to the 2022 "America's Best Employers by State" list by Forbes, ranking 14 out of the top 100 employers in NC. WCU is the UNC system's westernmost campus, serving 11,000+ students, and has been consistently ranked as one of the top 15 public regional institutions in the South. Nestled in the Southern Blue Ridge Mountains, adjacent to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and multiple National Forests, WCU offers a wide range of field and laboratory facilities. GNR is home to Forest Stewards, a non-profit company that provides experiential learning opportunities for students while promoting sustainable forest management practices on family, public, and tribal lands. Further, the Department maintains strong connections with local research and education stations, including the Highlands Biological Station and the USDA Forest Service Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory.

WCU is designated by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as a community engaged university. Inclusiveness and diversity are academic imperatives, and we are particularly interested in candidates with a demonstrated commitment to, and experience working with, students from diverse backgrounds and underrepresented groups.

The successful candidate will have a PhD in a relevant field at the time of hire; ABD candidates will be considered during the application process. **Applications must be submitted online at <https://jobs.wcu.edu/postings/25546>** and include; 1) a resume/curriculum vitae, 2) a cover letter, 3) transcripts from all degrees (unofficial acceptable), 4) a statement of teaching philosophy (maximum 2 pages), 5) a statement of research interests that includes contributions to silviculture and potential student involvement (maximum 2 pages), and 6) contact information for 4 references (confidential letters of recommendation will be requested only if the applicant reaches the finalist stage). WCU strives to be a community supportive of diverse perspectives and identities among its faculty and students. Candidates should describe ways their research and teaching activities would help foster an environment of inclusivity. Please contact the search chair, Aimee Rockhill (aprockhill@wcu.edu) if you have specific questions about the position or see gnr.wcu.edu for more general information. Review of applications will begin 10 November 2023 and will continue until the position is filled.

Western Carolina University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race; color; religion; sex; sexual orientation; gender identity or expression; national origin; age; disability; genetic information; political affiliation; National Guard or veteran status, consistent with applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations, and policies, and the policies of The University of North Carolina. Additionally, the University promotes the realization of equal

employment opportunity for minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and veterans through its affirmative action program.

Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations in the application and interview process please call (828) 227-7218 or email at jobs@email.wcu.edu.