



GARY R. HERBERT

Governor

SPENCER J. COX

Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER

Executive Director

Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands

BRIAN L. COTTAM

Division Director / State Forester

Outreach Notice: Internship

The State of Utah's Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry Fire and State Lands would like to announce the recruitment of one student intern position to begin in the spring of 2015. This position will assist the Division in implementing a Fire Costs Evaluation Plan developed by BYU's MPA program and specifically designed for the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands. The position will be located at the Department of Natural Resources headquarters in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands is one of seven Divisions that comprise the State of Utah's Department of Natural Resources. The Division is responsible for forest health, responding to wildfires and managing sovereign lands in Utah. The Division responds to wildfires on state and private land ensuring that communities, watersheds, rangelands and wildlife habitats don't suffer catastrophic losses. Foresters assist private landowners in promoting forest health and Sovereign Lands staff oversee management of the beds of Utah's navigable rivers and lakes.

Duties:

Following the severe 2012 fire season, Governor Gary R. Herbert charged state land managers with the task of developing a cooperative strategy to reduce the size, intensity and frequency of catastrophic wildland fires in Utah. The Governor's Catastrophic Wildfire Reduction Strategy was the result. Utah's Catastrophic Wildfire Reduction Strategy aims to reduce wildland fire by supporting the three goals of the National Cohesive Strategy of resilient landscapes, fire adapted communities, and response/suppression capacity. As this new and ambitious program is implemented, one challenge faced by the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands will be to evaluate the success of the actions taken to reduce wildfire risk and the associated cost of wildfire suppression.

The Division partnered with Brigham Young University students from the Romney Institute's Master of Public Administration program to develop both a qualitative and quantitative evaluation for the Catastrophic Wildfire Reduction Strategy. The goal is to utilize a Prospective Evaluation Synthesis (PES) and Interrupted-Time Series (ITS) to be able to track the impact of the actions taken under the Catastrophic Wildfire reduction Strategy.

Interns will assist Division staff with data collection, manipulation, and analysis. Please note that data collection may include field work involving the use of GPS. Additional duties include analyzing fiscal data, preparing reports, conducting research of peer-reviewed documents and general support of fire staff in relation to the Catastrophic Wildfire Reduction Strategy. Interns will be hired under the Forestry, Fire and State Lands internship program as AJ-Forestry Technicians and will be required to work a minimum of 20 hrs per week. Term limit for this position is one year. At the agency's discretion a successful intern may be eligible for full time employment with the Division following completion of the internship. Interested parties should contact Nate Barrons, Catastrophic Wildfire Reduction Strategy Coordinator:

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