GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT GÖTTINGEN STIFTUNG ÖFFENTLICHEN RECHTS

The **Group of Forest Economics and Sustainable Land-use Planning** is recruiting a

PhD student (f/m/d)

to work on the DFG-funded Research project **"Managing for beta-diversity to increase landscape-scale resilience of ecosystem services and economic outcomes".**

The position is to be filled by **October 1, 2026** and will be funded **for 3.5 years.** The salary is based on the German public service grade **TVL-E13** (**65%** of a regular working week, corresponding to 25,87 hours per week). The place of employment is the Faculty of Forest Sciences at the University of Göttingen (Göttingen, Germany).

What we offer

The project and PhD position are part of the DFG-funded Research Unit **FOR 5375 "Beta-FOR: Enhancing structural diversity in production forests"**. The research unit, composed of 12 German research organisations and international partners, will continue a research collaboration to investigate the effects of enhancing structural diversity between forest patches through silvicultural interventions, to improve biodiversity and ecosystem functioning. The team of supervisors is highly interdisciplinary, spanning ecology, forest science, economics, and remote sensing. The research unit offers a highly interdisciplinary and dynamic research atmosphere and connects you to internationally leading experts in the field. https://www.uni-wuerzburg.de/for5375/

Within the research unit, you will investigate the **effect of beta-diversity on the economic performance, stability and resilience** of forest stands and landscapes. We will investigate how the spatial and temporal asynchrony of silvicultural interventions can best be managed to enhance forest resilience to perturbations while reducing trade-offs among ecosystem services. The project will involve coupling forest economic simulations and optimisations with the forest landscape simulation model iLand. The project will be carried out in close collaboration with the Ecosystem Dynamics and Forest Management Group at the Technical University of Munich (Prof. Seidl)

Your profile

- Master's degree in the field of forestry, environmental economics, environmental modelling or related fields (rated with at least a "good" result)
- Knowledge and first experiences in forest economics and/or forest simulation
- First experiences with "R" and/or another programming language for data science
- Motivated to dive into forest economic simulation and optimisation approaches at the interface between forest ecology, management and economics
- Knowledge of German forest management and classic forest valuation methods is a plus.
- Knowledge of the German language for interaction with forest managers at the German study sites is a plus.
- Spoken and written proficiency in English is a prerequisite

The University of Göttingen is an equal opportunity employer and places particular emphasis on fostering career opportunities for women. Qualified women are therefore strongly encouraged to apply as they are underrepresented in the field. The university has committed itself to being a family-friendly institution and supports its employees in balancing work and family life. The university is particularly committed to the professional participation of severely disabled employees and therefore welcomes applications from severely disabled persons. In the case of equal qualifications, preference is given to applications from people with severe disabilities. A disability or equality is to be included in the application in order to protect the interests. The job is generally suitable for part-time work.

Please send your application (a letter of motivation, CV and the usual documents in English or German) in electronic form as one compiled pdf document to felap@uni-goettingen.de by **31.05.2026.** For further inquiries, please contact Prof. Dr. Carola Paul (phone: 0551 39-26762, carola.paul@uni-goettingen.de)
Find out more about our group here: www.uni-goettingen.de/felap

With the submission of your application, you accept the processing of your applicant data in accordance with the data-protection law. Further information on the applicable law and data usage is provided here: www.uni-goettingen.de/hinweisdsgvo.

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