Accounting for Forest Ecosystem Services in Ireland (For-ES): PhD Studentship available

An exciting new multi-disciplinary project is seeking to recruit a PhD student. The student will work as part of a team to develop Natural Capital Accounts for specific forest sites in Ireland. These accounts will capture information on forest natural capital STOCKS (the amount, location and condition of forest habitats), and the FLOWS of ecosystem services (in terms of commercial timber production, carbon sequestration, water retention, biodiversity and recreation). The PhD student will assist in creation of these accounts, and in the development of an interactive web-based management scenario tool. This will enable decision-makers to make more sustainable decisions regarding forest management.

This project will be led by Professor Jane Stout in the School of Natural Sciences in Trinity College Dublin, who will be the primary supervisor for the PhD student. The PhD student will be co-supervised by Dr Catherine Farrell and Professor Yvonne Buckley, also in the School of Natural Sciences at Trinity. The PhD student will also work with collaborators at UCD and Coillte.

This PhD is a 4-year structured programme, with an anticipated start date of March 2022. It is available to both EU and non-EU applicants, with an €18,000 annual stipend and a contribution of €6,000 per annum towards tuition fees.

Applicants must have:

- • First class or upper second class BSc (Hons) or MSc in environmental sciences, environmental studies, environmental management, ecology, botany, zoology, biology or similar
- • Knowledge of ecosystem services and natural capital concepts, and approaches to assessment
- • Excellent written and oral communication skills
- • Excellent numerical/data analytical skills, including GIS
- • Ability to work in academic team and with industry partners
- • Full clean driving licence, valid for Republic of Ireland.

Application Process

Informal enquiries should be made to Jane Stout via email stoutj@tcd.ie.

Applications can be made by emailing Jane Stout stoutj@tcd.ie by 6th January 2022. Late

applications will not be accepted. Applications should include:

1. A curriculum vitae (including the names of two referees, one of which must be an academic referee).
2. A cover letter (maximum 1000 words) outlining the applicant's research interests and why they are suitable for this project.

Interviews will be held remotely by video-link in early January 2022. The successful applicant will subsequently apply to register as a PhD student through the Trinity College Dublin central portal but must meet all requirements for registration in order to be eligible for this studentship. Postgraduate admission requirements are available here: https://www.tcd.ie/study/apply/admission-requirements/postgraduate/. The successful applicant will be required to provide evidence of English language competence following the award offer and before registering.