

1 PhD student in the research education subject: Forest management

Biodiversity management in forest thinnings

Skogforsk and The Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) is announcing a PhD-position in forest management with focus on thinning operations and biodiversity. Note that the student will be employed by Skogforsk, Svalöv, but accepted as a Ph.D student at the Southern Swedish Forest Research Centre, SLU Alnarp, and will be affiliated to both places.

The PhD-position is one of six that will be part of the research program FRAS, "future silviculture in southern Sweden", that is a co-operation between SLU, Skogforsk and the Linné University. PhD-students within the program will be working with different silvicultural aspects during the rotation in order to give a good synthesis of the whole silvicultural chain. Communication with the forest sector is an important part of the research program.

During the past 25 years, tree retention and dead wood creation has been carried out at final felling and more deciduous trees have been retained during pre-commercial thinning in Sweden. This has changed the structure of young forest stands, soon to be commercially thinned. Today there are high-cut coarse stems, coarse old living trees and more deciduous trees in the young forests than before. Despite this, old thinning templates for homogeneous monocultures are still used. There are also new guidelines for considerations to biodiversity during commercial thinning, but these are rarely coordinated with the thinning templates.

We are offering a PhD position for development of new strategies for first commercial thinning in pine and spruce stands in Southern Sweden. The project is divided in two main parts. The first is about thinning aiming to keep mixed conifer/deciduous forest stands. The other is about measures and precautions directed to earlier retention of trees and biotopes. Each part should be evaluated with respect to wood production and species conservation. Field work will contain both species inventories and forest mensuration.

Qualifications

Masters degree in forestry or biology with forest profile, or similar. Earlier experience of data collection and analysis and documented writing and analytical skills are meritorious. You should be initiative and be interested in forestry and biological conservation. Drivers license is mandatory.

For additional FRAS positions, see also: LNU:
<https://lnu.se/mot-linneuniversitetet/Lediga-jobb/>
It is possible to apply for more than one of the FRAS-PhD positions, but separate applications need to be submitted for each position. All FRAS-PhD positions will be appointed during the autumn of 2017, under the condition that the research program is fully financed.

Forms for funding or employment

Employment as PhD student (2 or 4 years education)

SLU is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

A person has basic eligibility for third level education if he or she has taken a second level qualification or has completed course requirements of at least 240 higher education credits, including at least 60 higher education credits at second level.

Selection among applicants meeting the requirements is made with reference to written application including curriculum vitae, copies of degrees and transcripts of academic records, one copy of the dissertation for masters or undergraduate degree, a list of at least two references familiar with the applicant's qualifications, certified knowledge of the English language and an interview.

Read about the PhD education at SLU at www.slu.se/en/education/programmes-courses/postgraduate-studies/

Use this [APPLICATION FORM](#)

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Applications, marked with **ref no SLU ua 1654/2017**, must have arrived at the Registrar of SLU, P.O. Box 7070, SE-750 07 Uppsala or registrator@slu.se no later than **2017-06-12**.