Position Description: Ph.D. Student in Vegetation Modeling and Climate Vulnerability Assessment

Montana State University is seeking a Ph.D. student for a NASA Applied Sciences project on vulnerability of biological resources under climate and land use change. The project will use NASA resources to inform climate and land use adaptation across two USDI Landscape Conservation Cooperatives through ecological forecasting, vulnerability assessment, and evaluation of management options (http://www.montana.edu/lccvp/). The position will start in August 2012. Tuition, fees, and research stipends will be provided for a three year period.

Duties:
- Develop and apply statistical and simulation models of ecosystem types and dominant tree species responses to climate change in the Northern Rockies and Appalachian Mountains.
- Participate in vulnerability assessments of ecosystem processes and ecosystem types under climate and land use change based on statistical analysis and on evaluation by expert panels.

Desired Qualifications:
- M.S. in ecology or related field;
- Training in vegetation, physiological ecosystem, landscape, and/or conservation ecology;
- Experience in simulation modeling, statistical analysis, and/or geographic information systems;
- Demonstrated ability to execute and publish ecological research;
- Experience in working on integrated science teams.

More Information.  An overview of the project can be found at (http://www.montana.edu/lccvp/)

Application Procedures:
- Send a letter of interest, C.V., G.P.A. and GRE scores, and the names and contact information of three references by April 15, 2012 to:
  Andrew Hansen
  Ecology Department
  Montana State University
  Bozeman, MT 59717
  hansen@montana.edu
  406 994-6046.
  http://www.montana.edu/hansen/index.htm

The position is contingent upon funding and will remain open until a qualified applicant is recruited.