



Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research WSL

The Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research WSL is a part of the ETH domain. Approximately 500 people work on the sustainable use and protection of the environment and on the handling of natural hazards.

The Research Unit Forest Dynamics explores the functional significance of forest diversity with respect to the ecology of managed and unmanaged forests in order to assess the future development of forests in Switzerland and other temperate and mountainous regions. From April 1st 2017 on, the Research Group Forest Entomology is looking for a

PhD student in Community Ecology

You will study how land-use intensity affects trait-based interaction networks and the consequences of these changes for community-based processes such as herbivory, biomass production and wood decomposition. You will work along a series of gradients of local land-use intensity in grasslands and forests in landscapes of different complexity and connectivity in order to enhance our mechanistic understanding of the functional consequences of land-use intensification. You will work in collaboration with the consortium of the priority programme „Biodiversity Exploratories“ in Germany.

You have a MSc degree in biology, environmental sciences or closely related fields. Some theoretical and/or empirical knowledge of the "Biodiversity and Ecosystem Function" (BEF) debate, including trait-mediated plant-animal inter-actions are desirable. Excellent knowledge in data management and complex analyses in R is required and practical experience and taxonomic knowledge on aboveground invertebrates would be advantageous. A driving license cat. B and good English skills are indispensable. You like to work independently, structured and precisely, you are team-oriented and flexible and speak German.

Please send your complete application to Sabine Hirt, Human Resources WSL. Martin Gossner, martin.gossner@wsl.ch, will be happy to answer any questions or offer further information. The WSL strives to increase the proportion of women in its employment, which is why qualified women are particularly called upon to apply for this position.

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