

PhD Opportunity: Mechanisms underlying pine forest resistance to multiple disturbances

Forest Science and Technology Centre of Catalonia (CTFC), Catalonia, Spain

August 19, 2019

We are looking for a motivated and capable candidate for a 4-year PhD contract (Spanish 2019 call "Ayudas para contratos predoctorales para la formación de doctores") associated to the ForRes project (RTI2018-098778-B-I00, MICINN): "Management options to promote forest resistance to multiple threats" (http://silvopas.ctfc.cat/?p=659).

The candidate will work with the CTFC researchers: Pere Casals, Míriam Piqué and Jordi Camprodon, to contribute to understand how different management options such as prescribed burning, mechanical thinning or clearing contribute to the mid-term resistance of pine forests against multiple stresses or disturbances.

Within the ForRes scope, she or he would be encouraged to develop further questions on the management derived mechanisms underlying the mid-term resistance of pines against drought, insect attack or wildfire. The PhD is envisioned to include dendrochronology, stable isotope and chemical approaches.

The PhD position is based at the Forest Science and Technology Centre of Catalonia (CTFC), located in Solsona, close to the Pyrenees and a short distance (~120 km) from Barcelona.

Application requirements:

- BSc. in Forestry, Biology or Environmental Sciences
- MSc in a subject related to forest management, plant biology or forest ecology
- Academic requirements of the FPI programme
- Comply with the requirements of access to an official doctoral program in a Spanish university (at the moment of the contract signature, summer 2020)

Key desired skills:

- High English communication abilities
- Data manipulation and statistical processing abilities
- Good disposition to carry out field work and laboratory analysis, and to learn modelling tools and approaches.
- Field work experience
- Willingness to conduct research stays in laboratories abroad

Start data: summer 2020.

Duration of the contract: maximum 4 years

Annual gross salary: according to the PhD program, and additional financial help for research stays.

Those interested should send their up-to-date **CV**, the **academic grade record** along with a **letter of motivation** describing previous research experience and research interests, by e-mail to <u>dep.personal@ctfc.cat</u>, with the indication "Pre-doc ForRes PhD offer n° 09-2019/22272" in the subject before **20th September 2019**

Contacts: Pere Casals (pere.casals@ctfc.cat), Miriam Piqué (miriam.pique@ctfc.cat)