

# Nick Merriman

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## Profile

I am a Canadian PhD Fellow in forest modelling at the University of Copenhagen, with a background in forestry, ecological restoration, and wildfire management. My research combines parametric and machine learning methods to develop individual-tree models of growth and stem form. I bring practical field experience and a strong interest in sustainable forest management, remote sensing, and ecosystem modelling.

## Education

<b>PhD Fellow</b> — Forest Modelling, University of Copenhagen	2024–present
<b>MSc</b> — Forest and Nature Management, University of Copenhagen	2021–2023
<i>Thesis: Monitoring indicators of ecosystem recovery using remote sensing techniques</i>	
<b>BSc</b> — Forestry (Forest Resources Management), University of British Columbia	2012–2015

## Research Experience

<b>PhD Project</b> — University of Copenhagen, IGN	2024–present
• Developing multi-species stem taper and volume functions	
• Enhancing individual-tree growth models with machine learning techniques	
• Integrating climate, environmental, and stand variables into forest models	
<b>Research Assistant</b> — University of Copenhagen, IGN	2023–2024
• Developed a height growth model for the tree genus <i>Paulownia</i>	
• Determined the relationship between total volume production and height for <i>Paulownia</i>	
• Assessed the production potential of <i>Paulownia</i> plantations using the models developed	

## Presentations

Poster Presentation — IGN PhD and Postdoc Conference, Univ. of Copenhagen <i>Paulownia Growth Modelling and Plantation Case Study</i>	2024
Guest Lecture — MSc course in Sampling and Modelling, Univ. of Copenhagen <i>Paulownia: History, Utilization, and Growth Modelling</i>	2024

## Technical Skills

R, Python, QGIS, Remote Sensing  
Statistical Modelling, Field Sampling

## Selected Work Experience

<b>Assistant Forester</b> — Taan Forest (Haida Gwaii, British Columbia)	2019
• Conducted silvicultural surveys, GNSS mapping, and restoration site monitoring	
<b>Fire Crew Leader</b> — BC Wildfire Service (Salmon Arm, British Columbia)	2012–2018
• Led helicopter-deployed fire suppression crews in remote areas of British Columbia	