



FBRI Senior Forest Biometrician – January 23, 2017

The Forest Biometrics Research Institute (FBRI) is a federally-recognized, non-profit forestry research and development organization located at the office of Western Forestry and Conservation Association in Portland, Oregon. The Institute is seeking a Senior Forest Biometrician. This is a permanent, full-time position.

Background

Since 1996, FBRI, led by Dr. James D. Arney, has developed and distributed a broad spectrum of integrated forest biometric methods and tools for forest management. The most notable of these efforts is the Forest Projection & Planning System (FPS) suite of forest inventory, growth and planning software. The efforts of the Institute to date have focused foremost on the development and implementation of FPS and providing state-of-the-art biometric and software support to the forest industry. As a result, an inadequate amount of time has been invested in publishing research results and technology transfer necessary for operational foresters to locally and independently invoke FBRI's suite of methods and tools. A knowledge gap now exists between FBRI research results and general forest management applications. While many organizations now use FBRI tools and methods, the intensity and scope of application is still well short of the design anticipated. The focus of the Senior Forest Biometrician position is to close this gap through active technology transfer among FBRI, universities and forest management organizations.¹

¹ Further information on the general need for biometric research and technology transfer within the forest industry can be found in the National Research Council Report, "National Capacity in Forestry Research" in 2002 (Note page 11 on the role of "centers of excellence").

Position Responsibilities

The Senior Forest Biometrician operates independently and reports to the President of FBRI. This position is responsible to FBRI's Board of Directors and to the stated mission of FBRI.

In this role, the incumbent will be expected to:

- Lead FBRI's program of research and technology transfer in forest biometrics
- Advance research, publication, and technology transfer of significant technologies developed within FBRI including:
 - Individual-tree, distance-dependent growth model for all species
 - Fully nonparametric species-specific libraries of taper, site, growth and biomass parameters
 - Landscape-wide forest productivity mapping using the 10-meter site capacity methods
 - Early silviculture localization methods using the FBRI Cash Card technology
 - Field research methods invoking individual-tree experimental units on Nelder plots and Response Surface Mosaic treatments.
- Work collaboratively with participating organizations and scientific peers to address technical information needs relative to the status and needs in North American timberlands:
 - Communicate with leading researchers and professionals involved forest inventory, silviculture, and forest growth and yield;
 - Monitor and provide technical review and guidance to industry on FBRI initiatives;
 - Participate in professional meetings and conferences; and present findings in diverse stakeholder groups;
- Play a leading role in development of client relationships.
- Play a leading role in building a significant endowment to supplement operating budgets.
- Play a leading role in the design and direction of FPS software development.

The person in this position will also be pivotal in formalizing, promoting, and participating in graduate research programs at major forestry schools where the focus is on forest biometrics. This position will interact directly on a one-on-one basis with major forest land owners in the United States and Canada.

Education and Experience

- Bachelor of Science in Forest Management from an accredited forestry school.
- Doctor of Philosophy in Forest Biometrics from an accredited forestry school.
- 3 to 8 years of experience in forestry research and/or forest management operations.
- Strong understanding and experience in forest management on working forests including inventory, silviculture, and planning duties.

- Strong understanding and application of the major silvicultural systems (clearcut, seed-tree, shelterwood and selection regimes).

Specific Job Skills

- Intermediate to advanced skills with growth modeling architectures
- Intermediate to advanced understanding of modeling concepts and techniques.
- Intermediate to advanced analytical and statistical skills.
- Intermediate to advanced skills with harvest scheduling systems.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Strong ability to work in team environments.
- Strong attention to detail.
- Proven ability to multi-task and meet multiple deadlines.
- Working knowledge of MS Excel and Access.
- Intermediate GIS and SQL skills are desirable.
- Programming languages, especially VBA and Fortran, are desirable

Professional Character

This is a pivotal position within FBRI due to its typically one-on-one, first-hand interaction with all participating organizations including private, corporate, tribal, county, state and federal organizations. The correct skill-set, professional character, ethics and integrity may evolve into a very influential presence throughout the forestry profession.

The first 18 – 36 months of employment will include first-hand interaction and mentoring with Dr. James D. Arney, President of FBRI. Depending on the professional character, experience and self-motivation, a significant portion of the workload carried by Dr. Arney may be shifted to this position.

At all times this position represents a highly visible identity of FBRI. Therefore, a calm, thoughtful and professional presentation is expected, both in emotional and physical characteristics.

Location

The home office is the FBRI Corporate Office in Portland, Oregon, at Western Forestry and Conservation Association. The person filling this position may physically reside in a different location as long as the home office is recognized and accepted. There will be frequent travel from time to time within the Northwest Region (six western States) for on-site inventory / planning reviews, analytical projects, field projects, conferences and technical support services.

This is an opportunity to become a key member of a pivotal forestry research, development and service institution. Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience. If interested, please use email or US mail to send your resume to:

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To learn more about the Institute, visit our web site at www.forestbiometrics.org

This announcement closes on March 11, 2017. Professional references are recommended.

The Institute operates under IRS 501(c)3 regulations which govern the conduct of tax-exempt organizations created for scientific purposes. Forest research and development is our only business.