The Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry will be advertising for a permanent research hydrologist. The incumbent is a member of the Tropical Forested Wetlands Team, located in Hilo, Hawaii. The scientist is assigned to the multidisciplinary Research Work Unit 4154 within the Pacific Southwest Research Station. The Wetlands Team pursues basic and applied research on the structure and function of riparian, wetland and aquatic ecosystems and the influence of watershed and landscape scale disturbances and management on water resources.

DUTIES: The scientist plans and conducts hydrological and watershed research within streams, riparian zones, wetlands and other aquatic systems that are part of the tropical landscapes of the Pacific Islands. Research will focus on hydrology of tropical streams, estuaries, freshwater swamps and mangrove forests. A high degree of experience with interdisciplinary team approaches to research is essential. The research objective for the hydrologist position is to develop an understanding of basic fluvial hydrology and how land use, climate change, restoration and other management strategies affect the quantity and quality of the water resource. The scientist will discover, evaluate and integrate knowledge about the complex interactions of climate, soil, plant, and water resources to meet the information needs of managers ranging from producers to strategic decision makers. The scientist will develop innovative technologies and scientific applications using models, or other techniques for scaling from point-based data to landscape, watershed and regional scales. In addition, the scientist will quantify how management or disturbances may alter ecosystem function and services; options for restoring these functions and services to disturbed or degraded watersheds; and the hydrological linkages between watersheds and the estuaries and near shore ecosystems they feed. Research will provide technical information transfer specialist both within the Institute and across the Pacific that can be used to develop guidelines for use by managers and the lay public. Expected results of hydrologic research will be two-fold. First, as part of a large team, results will be part of the holistic approach to understanding the effect of landscape management, disturbance and global climate change on water resources. Secondly, research conducted by the hydrologist should not only add to the holistic picture but also be able to stand alone as sound fundamental hydrological science.

WORK ENVIRONMENT: Work will be conducted in the field, lab, and office. Field work will be conducted in streams, mangroves, and other aquatic ecosystems and may require frequent travel and work for extended periods of time on remote islands. Field work will require standing, walking, hiking, or swimming in streams, deeply flooded, mucky soils, or among dense mangrove prop roots. A small portion of the work may be sedentary.

For any technical questions regarding the above position, please contact Christian Giardina, Research Ecologist, at the Forest Service: cgiardina@fs.fed.us or by telephone at (808)933-8121 Ext. 119.

The position will likely open in September 2007 and will be posted at www.usajobs.opm.gov
If you would like to be notified when the position is advertised, please complete the attached form or send an expression of interest with your contact information and send to: cgiardina@fs.fed.us or mail to:
Attn: Christian Giardina
Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry, USDA Forest Service
60 Nowelo St., Hilo, HI 96720.
Outreach Notice Response Form

I am interested in the Research Hydrologist GS 1315 12/13/14 position at the Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry in Hilo, Hawai‘i and would like to receive a copy of the Vacancy Announcement.

Reply Due : September 4, 2007

Please complete this form and send to: cgiardina@fs.fed.us or mail to:
Attn: Christian Giardina
Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry, USDA Forest Service
60 Nowelo St.
Hilo, HI 96720

Name: 
Address: 
Phone: 

E-mail Address: 

How would you like to be notified about the Vacancy Announcement? [ ] E-mail [ ] Paper copy sent [ ] Phone via U.S. mail

Thank you for your interest