



# *WSU School of the Environment: The World is in Your Hands!*

Our goal: Give you the education, practical experience, and field training needed to succeed in your chosen career and make a difference in the real world

# *Forest Ecology & Management*

The Forest Ecology & Management major focuses on the science and practice of forest stewardship for various purposes, including timber production, conservation, recreation, and wildlife habitat.

It addresses the complex relationship between humans and forests, promoting sustainable forest stewardship, combating deforestation, and conserving biodiversity.



# *Top Careers in Forest Ecology & Management*



***Forester (silviculture, GIS, harvesting & sales, sustainability, consulting)***

Protect and manage forests for sustainable use and conservation.



***Urban Forester***

Manage trees and green spaces in urban areas, plan city forests, and maintain community woodlands.



***Forest Restoration Specialist***

Restore damaged forests and ecosystems.



***Forest Manager***

Oversee forest operations, develop management plans, and ensure sustainable timber harvesting practices.

# *Job Market Outlook for Forest Ecology & Management*

The job market for Forest Ecology & Management professionals is robust, with a growing demand for experts in sustainable forest management, fire ecology, and climate change adaptation.

**Do you need a graduate degree?** No most professionals start working in entry-level positions and work their way up to higher level roles through experience and on-the-job training. However, post-secondary education and certifications can be valuable in helping candidates stand out in the job market or for more specialized positions.

***\$55K***

*Entry Level*

Starting salaries can range from \$50,000 to \$60,000.

***\$100K***

*Experienced*

Experienced professionals can earn over \$100,000 annually.



# *Beyond the Classroom: Study Abroad*

The School of the Environment hosts faculty-led trips providing immersive learning experiences.



## *Ireland*

Explore the history, culture and environment of Ireland



## *New Zealand*

Explore models of environmental and socio-economic sustainability



## *Antarctica*

Understand human impacts on a remarkable and fragile environment



## *Brazilian Amazon*

Discover the biological and cultural diversity of the world's largest intact rainforest

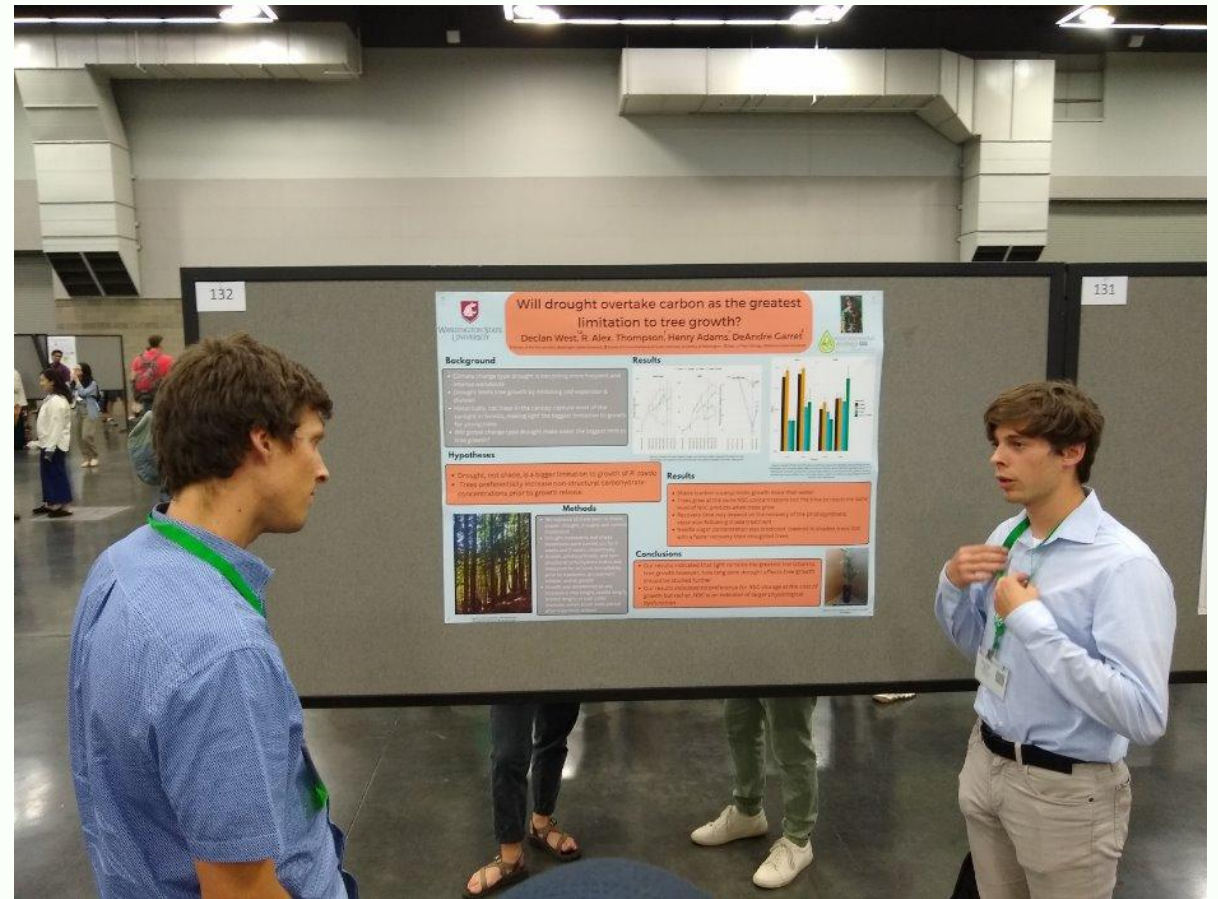
# Undergraduate Research Opportunities

Work with faculty on research projects, join summer Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REUs), and gain hands-on skills.



## Arthur Kearney

*“Through mentorship with faculty in the Forest Ecology and Management major I was able to create my own research project using information I learned working in the Fire Lab. I applied to an undergraduate fellowship program that helps supply me with the materials I need to complete my project. Overall, it has been a great experience, and I think that working on this project has given me a better understanding of what it is to work in research and has prepared me for graduate school.”*



**frontiers** | Frontiers in Forest and Global Change

TYPE Original Research  
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Check for updates

### Experimental downed woody debris-created microsites enhance tree survival and growth in extreme summer heat

Mark E. Swanson<sup>1\*</sup>, Margaret I. Magee<sup>1\*</sup>, Andrew S. Nelson<sup>2</sup>, Rudy Engstrom<sup>1</sup> and Henry D. Adams<sup>1</sup>

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## RESEARCH ARTICLE



### Canary in the forest?—Tree mortality and canopy dieback of western redcedar linked to drier and warmer summers

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# *Get Involved: Clubs and Organizations*

*Forestry Club*  
*(Society of American Foresters student chapter)*

*Environmental  
Science Club*

*Geology Club*

*Wildlife Society*

*Water Resources  
Club*

*Student Association of Fire Ecology*



# *Career Readiness*

In addition to the practical experience gained through field-based classes, all SOE students must complete 135 hours of internship, undergraduate research, or volunteerism in preparation for a successful career.





## *Out in the World!*

FEM graduates are making a positive impact on the world, working in conservation, research, education, policy, contributing to forest stewardship and sustainability.

# *Real-world examples of FEM Student Success*

## *2023 Graduate*

- ***Career Launch 2023***
  - Harvest Forester at Manulife Investment Management Timber & Agriculture
- ***Internship Summer 2022***
  - Internship with Weyerhaeuser
- ***Student Clubs***
  - Active member of forestry and fire ecology clubs

## *2023 Graduate*

- ***Current Position (2026)***
  - State Lands Forester with the Washington Department of Natural Resources
- ***Internships***
  - Interned with Weyerhaeuser and The Phoenix Conservancy
- ***Undergraduate Research***
  - Conducted research on fire's relationship to resin ducts in trees

## *2024 Graduate*

- ***Career Launch 2024***
  - Secured position as GIS Analyst with Weyerhaeuser immediately after graduation
- ***Internship Summer 2023***
  - Completed internship with Weyerhaeuser
- ***Academic foundation***
  - Like many students in his major, he earned a minor in Geospatial Analysis

## *2024 Graduate*

- ***Graduate School (2026)***
  - Pursuing Master's degree at WSU, studying the effects of urban stormwater on salmonids
- ***Friesen Symbiosis Research Lab***
  - Conducted research for two years investigating plant-microbe relationships
- ***Forest Ecosystem Dynamics Lab***
  - Spent two years researching factors that shape forest ecosystems