

Job Title: Forest Project Coordinator (Requisition #39788)  
Agency: Purdue University – Dept. of Forestry & Natural Resources  
Start Date: February 1, 2026 or soon after  
Duration: Permanent  
Compensation: \$55,000 - \$60,000/year plus benefits



The Department of Forestry and Natural Resources at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana, is seeking applicants for a project coordinator for the Hardwood Ecosystem Experiment (HEE; [www.heeforeststudy.org](http://www.heeforeststudy.org)), a large multidisciplinary research project examining the relationship of silvicultural practices to changes in plant and animal species within forests across Indiana. This individual will coordinate all research, extension and teaching activities related to the HEE.

### **Responsibilities:**

The successful candidate will facilitate collaboration between researchers from Purdue, University of Illinois, Drake and other universities, and local land managers for the State of Indiana – Division of Forestry (DoF). The position directly supervises a full-time Field Coordinator that serves as the on-site coordinator for field research activities. The Project Coordinator assists the Field Coordinator in hiring and termination decisions for summer employees and long-term technicians. This position is ultimately responsible for maintaining experiment protocols and licenses needed to carry out field research activities.

The Project Coordinator is responsible for coordinating field crew logistics, including hiring, housing and transportation, and provides oversight for quality analysis/control associated with collection of field data, including the compilation and archiving of tabular and geospatial data into searchable databases. The Project Coordinator will also assist in analysis of data to create annual progress and outreach materials, organize and/or participate in department-sponsored extension activities, and assist researchers by assembling results into publishable manuscripts. Therefore, regular communication via emails, meetings and/or quarterly newsletters is expected to update investigators and managers on progress and success of field work; to make judgments as to the suitability of the particular field sites for research activities; and to coordinate field activities with land managers on state forests properties. This individual will also serve as the secretary of the project's Executive Committee, comprised of principle investigators and DoF employees that oversee all activities in the project.

The position can be based at either 1) Purdue University's West Lafayette campus or 2) DoF office space at HEE field sites near Bloomington, Indiana. Remote work from another location may be possible on a short-term or part-time basis. Regardless, the position will require occasional travel between campus and the HEE field sites throughout the year. Further, the individual will occasionally be expected to assist the Field Coordinator to collect field data in adverse environmental conditions typical of southern Indiana.

### **Qualifications:**

#### Required

- M.S. or B.S. in a natural resource-based field
- Minimum of one year (M.S.) or three years (B.S.) of experience collecting ecological data in a supervisory role
- Working knowledge of general silvicultural operations, forest inventory and wildlife sampling techniques
- Advanced proficiency with Excel, Access, ArcGIS and statistical packages
- Strong organizational, communication and interpersonal skills
- Strong technical and/or scientific writing skills
- Knowledge of extension practices and approaches
- Valid driver's license with a good driving record

#### Preferred

- Demonstrated technical and scientific writing (i.e., management plans, reports or manuscripts)
- Demonstrated ability to plan events such as field days and workshops.

To apply, please visit [https://careers.purdue.edu/job/Project-Coordinator-Forestry-and-Natural-Resources/39788-en\\_US/](https://careers.purdue.edu/job/Project-Coordinator-Forestry-and-Natural-Resources/39788-en_US/). With your online application, please attach: 1) a cover letter, including the names and contact information for three references, and 2) a resume or curriculum vitae. **Review of applications will begin on December 15, 2025.** Questions may be directed to:

Mike Saunders  
Professor of Hardwood Silviculture  
[msaunder@purdue.edu](mailto:msaunder@purdue.edu)  
Phone: 765-430-1440

The successful applicant(s) will be subjected to a comprehensive background check managed by Purdue University's Human Resources department. The final hire is contingent upon clearance of this background check.  
*Purdue University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action employer, fully committed to achieving a diverse workforce.*