

The Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research WSL is a part of the ETH domain. Approximately 500 people work on topics related to the sustainable use and protection of the environment and on an integrated approach to handling natural hazards.

The two research units "Forest Dynamics" and "Land Use Dynamics" investigate the development of forests and landscapes driven by climatic factors and by biotic disturbances. An important factor in the dynamics of spruce forests are bark beetle outbreaks usually triggered by heavy storms. For the simulation of the outbreak dynamics of the spruce bark beetle in Switzerland we offer a



## Post-doc Insect Dynamics Modeling

You will develop a spatially explicit model of the spruce bark beetle dynamics, which in a later step will be implemented as an online risk assessment tool. This multifaceted project will consist in compiling and linking model components of existing bark beetle models or developing new ones, integrating experimental data on beetle winter mortality and tree susceptibility and in simulating bark beetle attack under various scenarios of climate change. In addition, corresponding field experiments may be carried out.

You should have a PhD in a relevant topic, a solid ecological background, extensive general modeling skills and ideally be familiar with modeling dynamics of insect populations. You are a team player and have a determined, self-dependent and structured mode of working.

Please send your complete application, using **reference number 653** to Mrs. Esther Mühlebach, Human Resources WSL, Zuercherstrasse 111, 8903 Birmensdorf, Switzerland. Questions can be directed to Dr. Beat Wermelinger, project- and team leader, tel. +41 (0)44 739 22 58 and, for modeling issues, to Dr. Heike Lischke, tel. +41 (0)44 739 25 33.

Human Resources, October 2010