



**Study forests of Long Island Pine Barrens at the nation's premier research facility — the Brookhaven National Laboratory**

**PROJECT OVERVIEW:** Forests of [Long Island Central Pine Barrens](#) provide important habitats for rare species, clean water, coastal protection, and recreational opportunities in a densely populated region. However, invasions by non-native species and changing climate and land-use affect forest ecosystem health and biodiversity, potentially leading to the demise of native pitch pine and oak. Are open pine barren ecosystems slowly transitioning to dense shade-tolerant forests or open shrubland or ecosystems dominated by non-native invaders? Can these changes be moderated by careful forest management? To answer these questions, join the [Dovciak research group at SUNY-ESF](#) and [Brookhaven National Laboratory](#) this summer.

**INTERNSHIP OVERVIEW:** During a 10-week internship (June to mid-August) at Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) in Upton, NY, interns will have an opportunity to interact with SUNY-ESF and BNL researchers and join research teams resurveying long-term [Forest Health Monitoring](#) plots established in 2005/2006 across Long Island. Interns will learn plant identification and field methods in monitoring forest vegetation and they will develop own research projects on various aspects of forest change (e.g., tree regeneration or mortality, understory plant communities) that will include data collection, data analysis, and reporting results. A weekly stipend (\$500 per week) and appropriate guidance and training will be provided. Free dormitory housing is available for students who live > 50 miles from BNL.



**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

- ✓ Highly motivated undergraduate student (sophomore or higher; graduating in August 2018 or later)
- ✓ **Cumulative minimum GPA of 3.0**
- ✓ Background: ecology, forestry, botany, dendrology, or related
- ✓ Basic vascular plant identification skills or willingness to learn
- ✓ Enthusiasm for field data collection; ability to follow protocols
- ✓ Excellent time management and interpersonal skills
- ✓ Attention to detail in recording and entering data
- ✓ Physical ability to participate effectively in field surveys in any weather and more than 40 hours/week when needed
- ✓ Experience with GPS, Excel, and field sampling is beneficial

See full eligibility requirements: <https://science.energy.gov/wdts/suli/eligibility/>

**TO APPLY:** Apply online by **January 10, 2019** via the Department of Energy-SULI program website (<https://apps.ornl.gov/suli/Account/Login>). **Applications before December 15 are strongly encouraged.** When filling out the application, select **Brookhaven National Laboratory** AND **biology or environmental science** as the research area. The application will require (1) essay summarizing your educational goals and qualifications, (2) official transcripts from academic institutions, and (3) at least two recommendation letters. See application details here: <http://science.energy.gov/wdts/suli/> **Contact your references early!**

**CONTACT:** Joanna Lumsden-Pinto ([jlumsden@syr.edu](mailto:jlumsden@syr.edu)) or Dr. Martin Dovciak ([mdovciak@esf.edu](mailto:mdovciak@esf.edu)). **Early inquiries are encouraged.** Once the application is submitted online, send us an e-mail to initiate the review.