Backpack in Yosemite & Kings National Parks and learn about Sierra Nevada water & fire!

Late spring preparations
Summer backpacking

The Stephens Lab is seeking employees to assist with preparation and field work in National Parks. Apply until 2/20/2016 by submitting cover letter and resume to Kate.Wilkin@berkeley.edu. Interviews start immediately.

Project overview: How does fire influence hydrology?

We seek to understand how wildland fire influences the forests’ water balance. Results from this study may guide policy and fire management techniques to increase water yield and water security.

Role of the employee

He or she will become familiar with the Sierra Nevada forests, hydrology, fire ecology, and data collection and management.

During late spring 2016 students will assist with field preparations and complete physical training. During summer 2016 students will gather hydrology field data and assist with data management. They will complete many eight-day backpacking trips where they must carry up to 50 lbs for six miles.

Employee’s Qualifications

Students must have a strong interest in: fire ecology, forests, and hydrology; Data management; Attention to detail and on-the-fly problem solving in the field, with computers, and in a team setting; Inter-personal skills and desire to work in a team; Backpacking for many days at a time (generally 8 day trips, but potentially up to 16 days); Spending long physically exhausting hours in the field; Enjoying the joys of field work (alpine sun-sets and swimming in creeks) and hardships (bushwhacking through shrublands) alike. Berkeley undergraduates are preferred.

Project begins: Spring 2016
Project lasts 1-2 semesters
Student Positions Available: 2-3

Salary To Be Negotiated per week
Location: UCB and backcountry of Yosemite & Kings National Park