

## **PhD in Plant Ecology—University of Wyoming and USDA Forest Service**

The Laughlin Research Lab is seeking applicants for a PhD position in the Program of Ecology and Evolution at the University of Wyoming. This project is a collaboration with Donna Shorrock, the Rocky Mountain Regional Vegetation Ecologist at the USDA Forest Service in Lakewood, CO.

The objective of the project is to test the survival, growth, and reproduction rates of indigenous plant species across a range of climates to determine plant climatic tolerances to inform the management and restoration of native plant communities in the Rocky Mountain ecoregion. We will establish and monitor an array of common gardens from 4,000 ft to 9,000 feet in elevation across the Front Range in Wyoming. The PhD student will also have ample freedom to develop other projects within this context, including topics such as functional ecology, plant demography and life histories, species niches and distributions, community assembly, and ecological restoration.

Preferred qualifications of the successful applicant include the following: an undergraduate degree in Ecology, Botany, Biology, or related degree; a passion for plants and Rocky Mountain ecosystems; research experience in ecology; and an interest in learning quantitative modeling skills. Preferred start date is May 2025. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

**TO APPLY:** We encourage interested students to enquire about the project by contacting Daniel Laughlin ([daniel.laughlin@uwyo.edu](mailto:daniel.laughlin@uwyo.edu)). Please email the following: (1) a one-page statement of research interests that addresses the preferred qualifications, (2) unofficial transcripts, and (3) Curriculum Vitae, (4) contact information for three professional/academic references.

Helpful links:

Laughlin Research Lab (<https://www.plant-traits.net>)

Program in Ecology and Evolution (<https://www.uwyo.edu/pie/>)

Department of Botany (<https://www.uwyo.edu/botany/index.html>)

Graduate Program at UW (<https://www.uwyo.edu/uwgrad/prospective/applying/index.html>)

US Forest Service Native Plant Materials ([Native Plants](#))

The Program in Ecology and Evolution is an interdisciplinary doctoral program focusing on the scientific study of the relations between organisms and their environments that provides students with advanced, integrated training in the science of ecology.

The University of Wyoming is located in Laramie (<https://www.visitlaramie.org/>) in a high prairie nestled between the beautiful Snowy Range and Laramie Range. We are blessed with ample outdoor recreational opportunities including hiking, biking, skiing, climbing, boating, and much more. Laramie is a classic western town with a supportive local community.