Fire Management Systems Laboratory – Professor Dave Martell

Opening: MScF students

One M.Sc.F. position in wildfire management at the University of Toronto

David Martell is seeking one M.Sc.F. student to study wildfire management in the Fire Management Systems Laboratory at the University of Toronto. The students will study airtanker management, inter-provincial fire suppression resource sharing and related topics. Research on these topics calls for a strong background in quantitative methods (e.g., undergraduate mathematics and statistics courses), software (e.g., Python) and spatial analysis (e.g., GIS software). Practical fire management experience would be a definite asset.

Professor Martell and his students use operations research, management science (OR/MS) and analytics methods to further their understanding of fire management systems and to develop fire management decision support systems that fire managers can use to enhance the performance of their fire management systems.

This project is a part of the NSERC/CANADA Wildfire Strategic Network (www.canadawildfire.org/nsercnetwork) that was been awarded an NSERC Strategic Partnership Grant for a five-year period beginning in 2020 and he is the leader of the Network’s Theme 5, Delivering Innovative Fire Management Solutions.

For each position, funding is available for two years. The ideal candidates should begin in the Summer or Fall of 2022 or early in 2023.

To apply, first refer to the guidelines for admission to graduate studies in Forestry at the University of Toronto: https://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/programs/forestry/. Prior to submitting a formal application, interested students are encouraged to send a cover letter explaining why they would like to study wildfire management, recent transcripts, and the names of two references, to Professor Martell (david.martell@utoronto.ca). Those that wish to begin their program during the summer or Fall of 2024 should do so by February 28.