



Tribhuvan University
INSTITUTE OF FORESTRY
Office of the Dean
Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal

Ref. No.:

Date: April 30, 2026

Tribhuvan University
Institute of Forestry (IoF)
Forest Fire Research
Call for Research Proposal (MSc Students)

Forest fires are an increasing environmental and socio-economic challenge in Nepal's middle hills and Terai regions, affecting biodiversity, forest regeneration, and the livelihoods of forest-dependent communities. In the context of Nepal's community forestry system, forest management responsibilities largely lie with Community Forest User Groups (CFUGs), which possess detailed knowledge of local forest conditions, seasonal fire patterns, and traditional fire control practices. Understanding local perspectives is therefore crucial for effective forest fire management because CFUG members are often the first responders to fires and play a central role in prevention, monitoring, suppression, and recovery efforts. We aim to conduct a representative survey of CFUG leaders to ascertain their policies, actions, and coordinated efforts in forest fire management in the given heightened forest fire risk across the CF landscape. In this line, a consortium of partners led by the North Carolina State University, Institute of Forestry, and ForestAction Nepal is inviting applications for a thesis research grant from M.Sc. students of Forestry, Natural Resource Management, Watershed Management and Mountain, Environment and Development Studies. The applicants are required to submit a concept of their research proposal related to forest fires and CV with their application in the following format.

Problem statement: one paragraph (not exceeding 500 words)

Research objective: General objective with three specific objectives

Methodology: A clear research design including data collection and data analysis

Time frame: Eight Months

Budget: NRs 75000

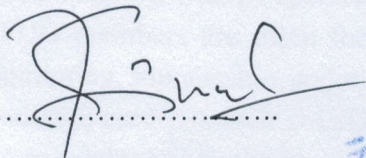
Criteria:

- Should have fulfilled the academic requirements from the University to carry out the research
- Need to demonstrate basic data analysis skills and have interest in forest fire research
- Demonstrate a sound knowledge on research methodology and writing
- Willing to travel to field and conduct surveys in research sites
- Good verbal communication in Nepali
- Have a strong sense of responsibility, integrity, and time management

The deadline for application is **May 30 2026**.

Terms and Conditions:

1. The applicant must certify he or she has not received thesis research fund from any other funding sources (Letter from campus).
2. Once the research grant is awarded, the applicant must complete his or her thesis on the topic awarded by this project. Failure to comply with this term would require the applicant to fully refund the amount awarded to project.
3. The candidate will work closely with the research team and is encouraged to prepare a manuscript to be submitted to a peer reviewed journal.
4. For further information, contact Associate Prof Dr. Sony Baral (sbaral@iofpc.edu.np) and Prof. Dr. Bir B Khanal Chhetri (bbkchhetri@iofpc.edu.np)



Prof. Thakur Silwal, Ph.D.

Dean



CC: for information and necessary action

IOF, Pokhara Campus,

IOF, Hetauda Campus

Kathmandu Forestry College, Matatirtha

General

- Must have fulfilled the academic requirements with the University to receive the research.
- Good to demonstrate good data analysis skills and good record of research.
- Demonstrate a sound knowledge on research methodology and writing.
- Ability to travel in field and conduct survey in mountain area.
- Good verbal communication in Nepali.
- Have a strong sense of responsibility, integrity, and time management.

The deadline for application is May 30 2024.