

**Resource Economics of Working Landscapes Cooperative Extension Specialist
Draft Description September 29, 2010**

Justification:

Although there are no agreed upon definitions for the concept of working landscapes, its general use implies the maintenance of healthy and functional ecosystems to provide specific societal goods and services. Society's dependence on the provision of ecosystem goods and services is acutely evident as natural resources become more limited due to anthropogenic degradation of ecosystems and their functions. A likely contributing factor to ecosystem degradation is climate change while reductions in biodiversity, water quality and water supply are likely consequences, all of which are impacted by our choices in land use policy, energy production and water use and allocation. The goods and services we receive from our ecosystems are the source of monetary income for individuals and families and sustenance for society.

Use of ecosystems is necessary for our well being, but our continued use must maintain economic viability of practices and sustain ecosystem integrity and function. ANR has many distinct advantages to address the breadth and complexity of issues within the subject of working landscapes. Our general technical expertise combined with the strong working relationships among our natural resource colleagues and the close connections we have to diverse clientele groups make us well positioned to conduct the appropriate research and outreach necessary to achieve positive impacts in this area. Although a number of faculty, specialists, and advisors have expertise in natural resource economics, the complexity and extent of valuation issues require an individual dedicated primarily to analysis, understanding, and communication of results of differing activities on working landscapes.

Position Description: Economics of Working Landscapes Specialist

The incumbent is expected to develop a strong program of applied research and education in the application of resource economics to valuation of working landscapes and associated ecosystem services. Required is expertise and a degree in applied resource economics.

Submit a CV, statement of research interests and addresses of three references to:

Chair, Specialist Search Committee
Address TBA

Applications must be received by...