

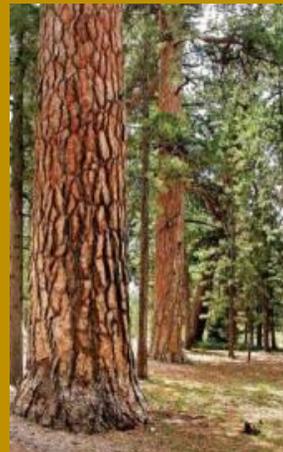
## Seeing the forest for the trees

**Best part of the job:** The strong focus on personal development no matter what your end goal or interests are. The support system and opportunities are there to improve your career.

**Most challenging part of the job:** Long hours working on a computer can be draining but the people that work at the UFI make it fun.

**Favorite plant:** Ponderosa Pine

**Outside UFI:** I value spending time with my wife, Bayli, and our dog, Cedar. Being with them outdoors is by far my favorite thing to do whether it is hiking, running, or fly fishing.



**Student Profile:** *Jordan Hanson | Undergraduate Technical Analyst*

***“Working in the natural resources is an incredibly rewarding profession because the places we get to work in every day are some of the most pristine and amazing locations on Earth. Having a job where you are trying to keep that around is pretty incredible.*”**

Jordan’s interest in the natural resources developed while attending Southern Utah University in Cedar City, UT. While a student, Jordan spent all of his free time outdoors exploring Zion National Park and its surrounding ecosystems. His passion for the natural resources deepened, though, when he worked his first season for the U.S. Forest Service. It was during this time that he began to learn the importance of proper land management and what it meant to be a good steward of the natural world. Since then, Jordan took a rather circuitous route to get to Utah State University and the Utah Forest Institute. His one constant, however, was his employment with the Forest Service. To date, he has worked five seasons with the Forest Service, four of which was as a Wildland Firefighter. The experiences inspired him to achieve a B.S. in Forestry from the S.J. and Jessie E. Quinney College of Natural Resources from Utah State University – a decision he claims was one of the best he has ever made. In his last year of his B.S., he worked for the Utah Forest Institute to bridge his interests in wildland fire and GIS. As an Undergraduate Technical Analyst, Jordan learned how to analyze the severity of wildfires – some of which he actually worked on as a Wildland Firefighter. He found that contributing to the generation of a large wildfire dataset that can inform land management and policy incredibly fulfilling. Jordan credits his experience as a seasonal in the Forest Service, his education at Utah State University, and his time with the Utah Forest Institute for acquiring the ever-so-desired permanent gig as a wildland firefighter at the Forest Service.



### ***What Jordan wishes everyone knew about wildfire ecology?***

The benefits of wildfire, and the role that it plays as a natural disturbance and a driver for ecosystems. With more information, I think that would allow managers to get more done and bring communities together.