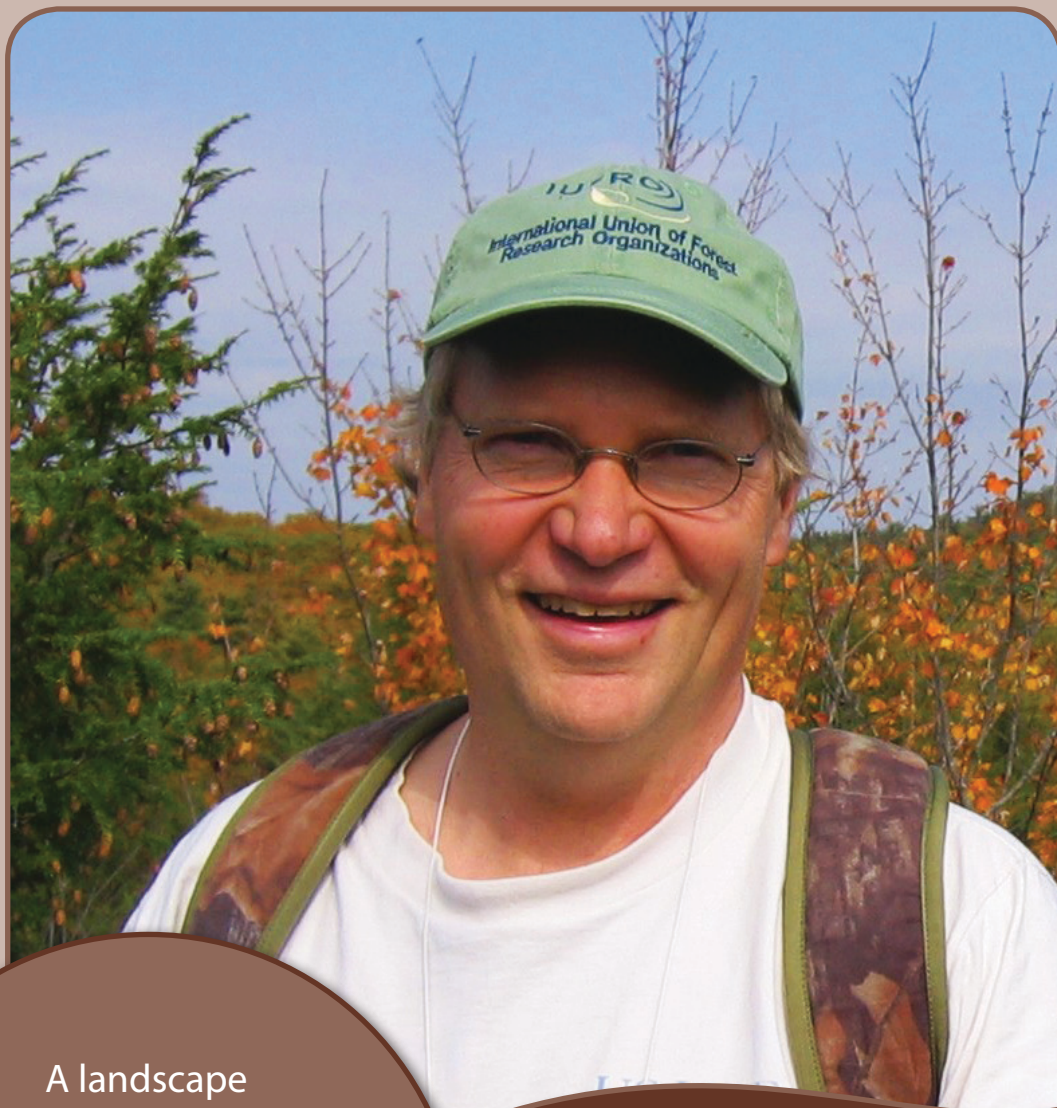




# Meet the Scientist!



A landscape ecologist studies how landscapes (ranging from large continents to small fields) are put together and how they function to provide ecosystem services to humans and all life.

## Dr. Louis Iverson

Landscape Ecologist

Ph.D., University of North Dakota

USDA Forest Service scientist



<http://www.naturalinquirer.org>

### Important Scientist Characteristics

For me, an analytical mind combined with amazement and wonder about our natural world, followed by concern for its well-being led to my desire to study ecology. By studying ecology, I strive to better understand the ecological challenges we face and contribute to some applied solutions.

### Example of a simple research question I have tried to answer:

What species of trees from northern Wisconsin might be most vulnerable (and least vulnerable) to climate change? What species might end up moving north due to a warming climate?

### Technology or equipment used in research:

My primary research tool has been the computer. I was among the first to use computer-based geographic information systems software (dating back to 1983) in solving real-world ecological problems.

### Most Exciting Discovery

A long-term study to determine potential impacts of climate change in the eastern United States has been my most important work. Our team of Anantha Prasad, Stephen Matthews, Matthew Peters, and I have worked together well to advance this field.

### When did you know you wanted to be a scientist?

Being raised on a species-diverse North Dakota farm, I was intrigued by the natural world. My high school and college science courses encouraged that curiosity to learn more about my world.