



**UF** Center for  
Latin American Studies  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



*Join us for Tropilunch!!*

## **Opportunities and challenges: scaling-up tropical forest restoration**

by Dr. Trevor Caughlin  
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January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
12:45 - 1:45 pm  
Grinter 376

**Content:** Over 700 million hectares of tropical forest have been destroyed or degraded, and restoring forest cover to some of these areas could yield enormous benefits for carbon sequestration and biodiversity conservation. However, despite ambitious plans to reforest millions of hectares of degraded land, ecological restoration at landscape scales remains expensive and unpredictable. My goal is to quantify how and why restoration outcomes vary across landscapes. To accomplish this, I use spatial models to link large-scale patterns of forest cover change with the ecological processes that underlie these patterns.

**Biography:** Trevor Caughlin is currently a Postdoctoral Research Fellow under NSF's Science, Engineering and Education for Sustainability Program. Trevor is broadly interested in improving human livelihood and conserving biodiversity in the tropics and his work includes papers on plant-animal interactions, human social networks, malaria eradication and tropical tree demography. Currently, his main research is on the human and ecological drivers of tropical reforestation, with a particular focus on how to scale up site-specific knowledge of reforestation dynamics to landscapes and regions.

*Tropilunch is a weekly seminar run by graduate students from the Tropical Conservation and Development (TCD) Program. It provides a forum for a range of discussions and presentations related to TCD work and research. Students are provided with an opportunity to present and discuss their research projects with peers and faculty. In addition, discussion sessions on issues of current interest are also held. Visiting scholars and conservation practitioners also participate when available. It is held every Tuesday at 12:45 p.m. in Grinter 376.*