



GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP

**Missouri Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit,
School of Natural Resources, University of Missouri**

Position Title: MS or PhD Research Assistantship in Wetland Ecology

Agency/Location: Missouri Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, School of Natural Resources, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO.

Job Description: Pending funding availability, a MS (2.5 years) or PhD (3.5 years) research assistantship is available with the Missouri Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit and the School of Natural Resources at the University of Missouri. The graduate student will work on a collaborative project with USDA and The Nature Conservancy to assess restoration success of Wetland Reserve Program easements in the Lower Mississippi River Valley of Kentucky and Tennessee. Project objectives include assessing vegetative communities and macroinvertebrate response to wetland restoration across a gradient of restoration ages and hydrologic regimes. There is further opportunity to expand study objectives and ask additional questions related to other ecological metrics, including avian response, to restoration activities and wetland hydrology. Field work will include floristic quality assessment, as well as macroinvertebrate sampling in potentially physically demanding/adverse weather conditions. The graduate student will supervise and work closely with field and lab technicians to complete project objectives.

Qualifications: B.S. in wildlife science, ecology, zoology or closely related field as well as competitive GRE scores (> 50 percentile in both verbal and quantitative portions). A M.S. degree is required for a PhD assistantship. Preferred qualifications include strong interest in wetland ecology, good field and GIS skills, macroinvertebrate identification experience, ability to perform rigorous field work responsibly and interact well with agency biologists and private landowners. Must possess a valid driver's license and meet University of Missouri vehicle use requirements.

Salary: \$22-24K/year plus tuition coverage and benefits. Anticipated start date as early as spring 2019

Closing Date and Contact Info: Applicant review will begin immediately and applications received before 26 October will have the best chance for acceptance. Interested applicants should send (via email and preferably as one pdf file) a CV, copy of transcript and GRE scores (unofficial OK), 1-2 page letter describing research interests, career goals and relevant experience; and contact information for three references to Dr. Lisa Webb, Missouri Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, School of Natural Resources, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211; (573) 882-2591; webbli@missouri.edu.