



Ph.D. Graduate Research Assistantship in Ungulate and Carnivore Ecology

Wildlife Biology Program, University of Montana Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Project Description: A Ph.D. Graduate Research Assistantship supported by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game is available in the Wildlife Biology Program at the University of Montana. The Ph.D. project will evaluate population dynamics and predator use of white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose, and elk in northern Idaho. The primary study objective is to improve understanding of how multiple predator species select and utilize multiple prey species across different habitat types in northern Idaho. This project, when coupled with other related research, will be used to inform integrated management strategies for a suite of large mammal species in Idaho. To address this broad objective, the graduate research assistant will estimate: 1) vital rates of each of 4 ungulate species, 2) predator-specific mortality rates of different age and sex classes of mule and white-tailed deer, and 3) predator diet composition. Existing demographic data on predator species in the region will be made available to the graduate student.

Qualifications: We expect applicants to have a B.S. and M.S. in wildlife science, biology, or a closely related discipline and relevant field research experience. Applicants must have a strong work ethic, the necessary maturity and ability to work with the public and various natural resource professionals, and interests in applied ecology and quantitative techniques. The position will require a rigorous combination of field work, coursework, statistical analyses, and writing. Please refer to <http://www.cfc.umt.edu/wbio/> for information about the Wildlife Biology Program at the University of Montana. Refer to <http://www.cfc.umt.edu/wbio/files/grad-policy-procedures.pdf> for minimum academic qualifications and additional information on UM's Wildlife Biology Graduate Program.

Compensation and Timeline: The Graduate Research Assistant (GRA) selected for this project will receive an annual stipend of ~\$26,700/year for up to 6 years (2019-2025). All university tuition and fees will additionally be covered. The GRA will be expected to conduct an initial pilot field season during May-August 2019 and formally enter the University of Montana wildlife biology graduate program in August 2019.

To apply: Applicants should send a cover letter, resume, unofficial transcripts, GRE scores, and the names and contact information (phone and e-mail address) of 3 references to Chad Bishop. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Questions about the project may be directed to either Chad Bishop or Mark Hurley.

Contact Information:

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