

Graduate Student Opportunity (M.S.)

We are seeking a highly-motivated M.S. student to join our interdisciplinary water quality and riparian management research team in the Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management at Iowa State University (ISU).

Project title and overview:

Dam! Impacts of Beaver Dams on Surface and Groundwater Quality

This field and laboratory-intensive project aims to quantify impacts of beaver dams on nutrient and sediment loading, hydrology, and stream channel morphology within agriculturally-dominated Iowa watersheds. Project affords ample collaboration potential with partners within and beyond ISU, including: ISU Extension and Outreach, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Iowa Geological Survey, USDA National Laboratory for Agriculture and the Environment, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This project is funded by the Iowa Nutrient Research Center (cals.iastate.edu/inrc/).

Qualifications:

Ideal candidates will possess a bachelor's degree in environmental science, forestry, soil science, agronomy, or related disciplines. Candidates with field, laboratory, and GIS experience related to water quality, biogeochemistry, hydrology, and/or stream morphology preferred. Strong writing skills and a positive attitude (especially during challenging field conditions) are critical. Drone / UAV experience a plus.

Start date:

Preferred start date is spring semester 2021 (note, semester begins 1/25/21).

To apply:

Please email a letter of interest, CV, contact information for three references, unofficial transcripts, and GRE scores (if available) to Dr. Billy Beck (wjbeck@iastate.edu). Review of applications will begin immediately, and will continue until an exceptional applicant is found. Feel free to contact Dr. Beck with questions, or to discuss the project, by email or phone (515-294-8837).

The successful candidate will receive a graduate stipend, health insurance, and partial-tuition waiver for the duration of the program. The M.S. degree will be pursued within the interdisciplinary Environmental Science graduate program (enscigrad.iastate.edu/).