

PhD Assistantship—

Minnesota Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Start Date: Available January 1, 2021 (Spring 2021 Semester) or August 2021 (Fall 2021 Semester)

Last Date to Apply: Nov. 15, 2020 for Spring 2021; January 15, for Fall 2021

Description & Qualifications

The Minnesota Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, housed in the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation Biology at the University of Minnesota is recruiting a Ph.D. student with an interest in social and policy research related to invasive species management. Initial funding is being provided through the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC). The student will work closely with researchers and managers affiliated with MAISRC and stakeholders to understand risk perceptions of invasive aquatic species and the use of genetic technology to potentially control those species.

The ideal candidate will have experience conducting large scale statistically representative quantitative assessments of natural resource stakeholder's values, beliefs, attitudes, risk perceptions, and behaviors. Candidates with a Master's degree in human dimensions or applicable social science discipline and demonstrated ability to conduct social science research are preferred, but it is not a requirement. The student will be expected to pursue coursework in the social sciences including but not limited to psychology, sociology, political science and economics, as well as advanced multivariate statistics. A primary interest in the application of social science theories and methods to environmental management issues is a requirement.

Compensation and Timeline

The position is available January 2021 (spring semester 2021) with a start date of no later than August 2021 (fall semester 2021). Funding is available for up to 4 years depending upon student performance. The Graduate Research Assistant selected for this position will receive an initial stipend of ~\$24,500 plus health and tuition benefits (total value of ~\$46,000) with annual cost of living adjustments.

To apply: Please send a cover letter, CV, and list of 3 professional references to David Fulton (dcfulton@umn.edu) Assistant Unit Leader at the Minnesota Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit. In the cover letter the applicant should address their research interests and experiences, their career aspirations, and fit for the position with particular attention to human dimensions research. Applications review will begin October 2020.

