

M.S. Assistantship – Bats and Forest Management: Indiana

Description

One highly qualified candidate is sought to conduct an acoustics study on the effects of forest management on bat activity in south central Indiana. Specifically this project would involve using acoustics to describe the relationship of bat activity to forest (tree) harvest practices particularly shelter wood harvests. This project is part of the Hardwood Ecosystems Experiment, a large-scale, long-term study investigating responses of native biota to timber management techniques (www.heeforeststudy.org). This project will make wide use of Acoustic detectors (SM2) and as such candidates with experience in that area will be given preference.

The successful applicant must secure a graduate assistantship with the Ball State University Department of Biology, providing a stipend of approximately \$11097.00 for the academic year (August - May) and includes a fee remission benefit worth approximately \$10,000 per academic year. You will be responsible for dedicated fees, which amount to approximately \$1300.00 per semester. Summer salary commensurate with the stipend will be provided during the field seasons.

Field research starts May 2016 and coursework and the assistantship will begin August 2016.

Qualifications

Character Qualifications

1. Keen interest in and passion for bat ecology and conservation
2. High degree of character integrity (honest, mature, responsible, respectful)
3. Exceptionally self-motivated, hard-working, detail-oriented, and competent
4. An innately positive disposition despite challenging circumstances
5. Strong communication and interpersonal skills + ability to lead a crew of at least two techs/interns

Field Qualifications

6. Acoustic Bat detector experience (ideally SM2)
7. Above average computer skills
8. Ability to carry heavy equipment over strenuous terrain
9. Orienteering and GPS experience
10. Valid driver's license, 4WD experience, and good driving skills

Academic Requirements

1. B.S. in wildlife biology or a related field
2. Undergraduate G.P.A. of at least 3.0
3. GRE scores 151 verbal and 150 quantitative

Additional Remarks

- This project will include long days (12+ hours) and a lot of hiking
- Shared field housing (summers) among coworkers and with members of other field crews is provided. Note: this requires considerate and cooperative individuals only.
- Please refrain from applying if the above situations are undesirable.
- For those that are rabies vaccinated, there is possibility to assist other graduate students with capturing bats and radio telemetry.

To apply, please send Dr. Timothy Carter (tccarter@bsu.edu) the following documents:

- Letter of interest detailing your research interests, career goals, and interest in the position
- Curriculum vitae (including G.P.A. and G.R.E. scores)
- Contact information for three references
- Unofficial transcripts

For more information:

Ball State University: www.bsu.edu

The Carter lab: www.tccarter.iweb.bsu.edu

Application Deadline: November 2, 2015

Applications will be reviewed as they are received.