

Description:

The Refsnider Lab at the University of Toledo is seeking a highly motivated PhD student to conduct research on the effects of a 2010 oil spill on population recruitment and health of freshwater turtles. Field research will be conducted in the Kalamazoo River in Michigan, and will involve extensive trapping, radio-tracking, nest-searching, and collecting blood samples from freshwater turtles. The project will require trapping and radio-tracking in hot, cold, wet, and/or buggy weather via canoe. 2-3 field crews will be operating simultaneously; therefore, the successful candidate must have experience leading and overseeing teams of field technicians. Research will also involve several laboratory assays during the academic year to quantify immune function. The student must be willing to work as part of a dynamic research team, conduct extensive fieldwork in various conditions, and work and live with a research crew at the field site over 3 summers. The successful candidate will have a Master's degree conferred by 1 Jan. 2018, experience leading a field research crew, experience operating and transporting canoes, a demonstrated ability to complete field research activities independently, and strong written and oral communication skills. Preferred qualifications include radio-telemetry experience, previous experience with reptiles or amphibians, and laboratory experience. The student will be working toward a PhD in Ecology in the Department of Environmental Sciences at the University of Toledo (<http://www.utoledo.edu/nsm/envsciences/>). Salary includes 1 semester + 1 summer per year as a research assistant, 1 semester per year as a teaching assistant, and full tuition waiver, for 4 years. Start date is 1 January 2018.

Qualifications:

Master's degree in biology, ecology, wildlife, or related field on or before 1 January 2018. Minimum GPA of 3.5, minimum quantitative and verbal GRE scores of 150, minimum GRE writing score of 4.5. Valid US driver's license. A strong interest in wildlife ecology, and further development and application of statistical skills, is required. Preference will be given to applicants who have previous experience leading a field crew, operating a canoe, and working with herpetofauna.

How to apply:

Interested individuals should send a cover letter that explicitly addresses the candidate's qualifications for this position as outlined above, a CV, names and contact information for 3 professional references, unofficial academic transcripts, and scanned GRE scores in a single PDF to Dr. Jeanine Refsnider (email: jeanine.refsnider@utoledo.edu; website: <http://jrefsnider.wixsite.com/research>) by 13 October 2017.

For more information on University requirements, please see: <http://www.utoledo.edu/nsm/envsciences/grad/entrance.html>