

David L Nieland

Subject: Ph.D. Assistantship - Narrow-headed Gartersnake Conservation - Univ of Arizona - Phoenix Zoo fellows

University of Arizona – Phoenix Zoo Native Species Conservation Fellow

Transition from zoo to field: maximizing the success of Narrow-headed Gartersnake conservation

Start date as early as May 2016

Application deadline: 1 Mar 2016

In partnership with the Phoenix Zoo, I have the opportunity for a passionate PhD student interested in the conservation of threatened species, especially reptiles, to join my research group in Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation and Management at the University of Arizona. The Narrow-headed Gartersnake is a federally threatened species that is found in the streams of the Mogollon Rim across Arizona and western New Mexico. The Phoenix Zoo, working with numerous partners, has a successful captive breeding program for these snakes. The fellow will work with the Zoo on their *ex situ* conservation efforts and monitor the success of individuals released into native habitat as part of joint *in situ* efforts. Well-developed interpersonal skills, a strong work ethic, and a desire to collaborate with zoo/university/agency scientists, zoo employees and visitors, land managers and landowners are required for success with this exciting field and zoo research partnership.

A Graduate Research Assistantship that provides a monthly salary and tuition remission will be available for the fellow. More information on benefits for GRAs can be found at: <https://grad.arizona.edu/funding/ga/benefits-appointment>

Highly qualified and interested students should contact Dr. John L. Koprowski (squirrel@ag.arizona.edu) and provide your CV and a 1 page statement of interest that outlines pertinent experience, general qualifications, GPA, and GRE scores. Previous field experience with reptiles and riparian systems, appropriate coursework and academic success as indicated by GPA and GRE scores are considerations in the selection process. **After initial review of inquiries, highly qualified students will be encouraged to apply through the formal admission process of the School of Natural Resources & the Environment and will be jointly selected with the Phoenix Zoo.** Application materials and general information on SNRE and the University of Arizona are available at <http://www.snre.arizona.edu/>. Learn more about my research group at <http://cals.arizona.edu/research/redsquirrel/> and Narrow-headed gartersnakes at <http://www.reptilesfaz.org/Snakes-Subpages/h-t-rufipunctatus.html>.

Sincerely,

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