

David L Nieland

Subject: PhD Graduate Assistantship in Dessert Amphibian Ecology

PhD Opportunity in Desert Amphibian Ecology Start July 2016.
Deadline for applications February 21st

I am seeking a highly motivated student to start a PhD and participate in a study on amphibian use of ephemeral waters in the Sonoran Desert.

The study will take place on the Barry M Goldwater Range, USAF in south- central Arizona. We will be examining how site quality affects amphibian use of these sites including quantifying population demographics. (See Griffis-Kyle et al. 2014 Wildlife Society Bulletin 34:148-151 for project background regarding habitat quality)

The work will likely consist of checking and maintaining audio-data loggers, identifying amphibian species during breeding choruses and as tadpoles, sampling water quality, collecting and identifying invertebrates, and locating unmapped ephemeral waters.

This position requires hard work, problem solving, a tolerance for desert heat, and exposure to venomous snakes and invertebrates. This is a physically demanding job which requires hiking into remote sites, odd hours and extended hours during monsoonal rains, driving a 4wd on unmaintained roads, and coordinating with military security. Rock climbing or scrambling experience helpful but not required. Experience with amphibians and identifying invertebrates is desired, but not required. Preference will be given to motivated candidates with excellent communication skills, willing and able to function in the summer desert environment. Applicants must have completed their MS by the start date. Stipend is \$18,000/yr (PhD)

Interested applicants should email Dr. Kerry Griffis-Kyle

(kerry.griffis-kyle@ttu.edu) and have "Graduate opportunity" in the subject line. Please include in the email:

1. How this position will help you fulfill your career goals and why I should hire you
2. Resume or CV including pertinent work experience
3. Unofficial transcripts
4. GRE scores
5. Contact information for three references
6. Address, phone, and email

Position contingent upon funding. Texas Tech University requires a background check of all new employees. For additional information on the

Department: <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/nrm/>