

Subject: Ph.D. Graduate Assistantship - Occupancy of Big Cypress Fox Squirrels

Ph.D. Graduate Assistantship

Occupancy and habitat use of Big Cypress Fox Squirrels

Start date as early as July 2016

Application deadline: 1 Mar 2016

I have an exciting research opportunity in my research group in Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation and Management at the University of Arizona for a passionate PhD student interested in the ecology and conservation of mammals. The Big Cypress Fox Squirrel is a state-threatened species that is endemic to the wet forests of south Florida. Conservation of this colorful large tree squirrel requires delineation of the distribution and determination of key habitat characteristics for this uncommon species. The successful graduate student will use remote cameras, sign surveys and hair tubes to detect squirrels and assess distribution and habitat use through an occupancy modeling approach across a mosaic of forests on public lands. Well-developed interpersonal skills, a strong work ethic, and a desire to collaborate with agency scientists and land managers are required for success in this exceptional field effort in partnership with parks, refuges and reserves in the wild wetlands of south Florida.

A Graduate Research Assistantship that provides a monthly salary and tuition remission will be available. 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 experience with occupancy modeling, mammalian ecology in the field, the wet forests of the southeastern US, 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.** 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 Big Cypress fox squirrels at <http://www.nps.gov/bicy/learn/nature/big-cypress-fox-squirrel.htm>.

Sincerely,

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