

From: Stewart, Rose
Subject: Doctoral Research Assistant Position - Deer Movement and CWD - Michigan State University

Doctoral Research Assistant – Deer Movement and Chronic Wasting Disease

Description: The Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at Michigan State University invites applications for the position of Doctoral Research Assistant. The intent of this position is to investigate movement and dispersal of white-tailed deer within the Michigan Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) management zone. CWD was first observed in Michigan in 2015, and the distribution of the disease appears to be localized to an area just north of the MSU campus. This field-based project will involve three years of deer capture and radio-collaring, intensive GPS monitoring of deer movement, and statistical modeling to analyze deer movement behavior and population dynamics. The Doctoral Research Assistant will work as part of a team of doctoral students, postdoctoral research associates, faculty, and biologists with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The project has five years of financial support.

Program Support: Michigan State University Department of Fisheries and Wildlife is one of the largest programs of its kind, with 45 core faculty (<http://fw.msu.edu/>). The Department hosts the Boone and Crockett Quantitative Wildlife Center (<http://bcqwc.org/>), whose mission is to promote wildlife conservation by applying mathematics, statistics, and computer modeling to major challenges facing wildlife management and conservation policy.

Qualifications: Applicants must have a Master's Degree in wildlife ecology or a related field, an aptitude for quantitative analysis, and excellent communication skills. Prior experience with animal capture and radiotelemetry is strongly preferred. The applicant must have the ability to work extended hours in adverse field conditions (e.g. snow, wind) during the capture season. Preference will be given to candidates with a record of experience working with government wildlife agencies.

Salary and Start Date: \$22,000, tuition, and health benefits.

Applications: Submit applications to the Departmental Research Administrator, Dr. Rose Stewart (<mailto:stewa684@msu.edu>), with the subject line "Deer Movement and CWD". A single PDF file should be submitted, including: a letter of intent, CV, copies of undergraduate and graduate transcripts, GRE scores, and a list of three references. Review of applications will begin February 1, 2017 and continue until the position is filled.