

**From:** Jian  
**Subject:** Post-doctoral fellowship opportunity in Conservation Biogeography

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## Post-doctoral fellowship opportunity in Conservation Biogeography

**Organizations:** Dept. of Renewable Resources, University of Alberta (UofA [REN R](#))  
School of Ecological and Environmental Sciences, East China Normal University

([ECNU](#))

**Position:** PDF: post-doctoral fellowship in conservation biogeography (2~3 yr. position)

**Apply By:** 15 January, 2018

**Start Date:** Winter,2017-Spring, 2018

**Wage:** \$52,000 per year (CND)

**Description:** Applications are being accepted for a PDF position at the University of Alberta (lab of Dr. Scott Nielsen) in collaboration with the East China Normal University (lab of Dr. Jian Zhang). The applicant should have a background in spatial ecology with a focus in the areas of conservation biology, biodiversity conservation, macroecology, and/or conservation planning. Research will focus on the following 3 topics: First, the spatial landscape prioritization of biodiversity indicators for conservation with an emphasis on landscape restoration planning of boreal forests. This includes assessing (modeling) time lags in forest recovery and understanding trade-offs in active versus passive (natural forest regeneration) restoration strategies across 275,000 km of linear corridors (seismic lines) created for oil sands exploration in Alberta's boreal forest. These linear corridors dramatically increase forest fragmentation and have been shown to be a key threat to endangered woodland caribou. Second, the research will focus on spatial modeling of conservation offset strategies using models of biodiversity indicators and limited budgets for conservation (restoration). This is complementary to the first objective. Third, the PDF would work on broader topics in conservation biogeography and macroecology relative to emerging ideas and theories.

**Supervisors:** Dr. Scott Nielsen (<http://ace-lab.org/3G/scott.php>)  
Dr. Jian Zhang (<http://faculty.ecnu.edu.cn/s/3492/t/35487/main.jspy>)

**Qualifications:** PhD in ecology or related field (e.g. biology, conservation biology, geographic science).

**Assets:** Skills in statistics, GIS, R; experience in working in the area of biodiversity conservation and spatial (landscape) modeling; an understanding of forest dynamics.

**Instructions:** Please submit a cover letter describing your research interests, experience, and qualifications for this position, a curriculum vitae, and contact information for three professional references. Email your cover letter, CV, and reference information to Dr. Scott Nielsen at [scottn@ualberta.ca](mailto:scottn@ualberta.ca) and Dr. Jian Zhang at [jzhang@des.ecnu.edu.cn](mailto:jzhang@des.ecnu.edu.cn).