

Position: Post-doctoral Research Associate; School of Natural Resources, University of Missouri in collaboration with the Missouri Department of Conservation

Description: The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) has been a leader among states in advancing comprehensive and strategic planning of conservation. Their planning has culminated in a set of Priority Geographies in which they are working to support and conserve viable populations of all wildlife and the habitats on which they depend. Now that work is taking place in these geographies, the department has identified a need to develop a Landscape Health Index (LHI) to help better define their goals for their landscape conservation efforts and measure their progress toward success.

We are seeking a research associate to work with the Missouri Department of Conservation in the development of a landscape health index that will assess and monitor the impacts of conservation efforts in Missouri's priority landscapes. The successful applicant will work closely with biologists and coordinators from MDC, the USGS Coop Unit, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service while gaining experience in long-term monitoring, decision making, and landscape conservation.

Duties will include meeting with the department's planning teams to facilitate identification of landscape conservation objectives and the development of sampling protocols for measuring management and biodiversity outcomes relative to the objectives. The postdoc will also be responsible for using up-to-date methods to analyze sample data on vegetation, fish and wildlife species (e.g., occupancy modeling of birds and herpetofauna and GIS processing of remotely sensed data and landcover) and developing a landscape health index from those results. Field and outreach work is possible based on postdoc interests.

Qualifications: PhD in ecology or related discipline with experience in quantitative methods. Experience with decision analysis and/or Structured Decision Making is highly desirable. Preference will be given to candidates that possess strong communication and teamwork and team-building skills.

Salary: \$50,000 per year plus full benefits. Initial appointment is for 1 year with possibility of 1 year-extension. For additional policies for post-doctoral associates at the University of Missouri, please see <https://gradstudies.missouri.edu/postdoctoral-education/postdoctoral-policies/>. The position is based out of the School of Natural Resources at the University of Missouri in Columbia and will have access to devoted office space, campus resources and required technology.

Applications will be reviewed as they are submitted. The anticipated start date is early winter 2019.

To apply email letter of interest, CV, and contact information for three references (preferably as one pdf) to Dr. Thomas Bonnott, School of Natural Resources, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211.

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