



## **Ph.D. Graduate Research Assistantship Deer Density Estimation, Floods, and Mammal Communities**

A Ph.D. assistantship is available under the supervision of Dr. Dana Morin at the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Aquaculture at Mississippi State University. The successful applicant will use camera trapping and genetic sampling techniques to develop non-invasive monitoring methods to estimate white-tailed deer population density with an opportunity to assess mammal community responses to changing deer densities relative to chronic wasting disease and recent catastrophic long-duration floods. Research will include design and implementation of sample collection, processing non-invasive samples, and analysis of data. Overall objectives will include evaluation of methods to estimate population parameters and measure response of mammal populations to ecological changes. Specific research questions will be developed by the student in consultation with their committee and experts in the field including the MSU Deer Lab.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** M.S. Degree with minimum 3.25 GPA in EEB, Biology, Zoology, Wildlife & Fisheries or related field. Field experience and knowledge of population and community ecology, genetics, and strong quantitative skills are highly desirable.

**LOCATION:** Starkville, Mississippi.

**STARTING DATE:** Fall 2020 (later start negotiable).

**REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS:** Begin July 1, 2020. Open until filled.

**COMPENSATION:** Annual \$23,500 + tuition and fees waiver, and insurance.

**HOW TO APPLY:** Send the following materials (single PDF) to Dana Morin (**[dana.morin@msstate.edu](mailto:dana.morin@msstate.edu)**).

- 1) Cover letter stating interest in the position and long-term career goals.
- 2) Curriculum vitae including three references.
- 3) GRE scores.
- 4) Graduate and undergraduate transcripts (unofficial are fine).

For inquiries, please email [dana.morin@msstate.edu](mailto:dana.morin@msstate.edu)