

M.S. Assistantship: **Recreational Disturbance and Desert Bighorn Sheep**

The New Mexico Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at New Mexico State University is seeking a highly motivated, talented and hard-working M.S. student for a study on the impacts of recreational disturbance on desert bighorn sheep in western Colorado. Specifically, the study will involve assessing movements, resource selection and space use, activity budgets and foraging efficiency, and apparent lamb survival in relation to human disturbance.

The selected student will apply to the M.S. program in the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Ecology at New Mexico State University for August 2020 semester. The selected student will work as a Teaching Assistant for the Fall 2020 semester, but will be support as a research assistant thereafter.

Candidates must have a B.S. degree in Wildlife, Ecology, or a related field, a GPA exceeding 3.4, and highly competitive GRE scores (e.g., > 70% percentile on verbal and quantitative sections). Prior experience conducting field research on large mammals, working in remote locations, driving 4x4 vehicle, and substantial experience with radio telemetry is required. Applicants with excellent quantitative skills are especially encouraged to apply. Field work will be very physically demanding; applicants will often be required to hike 6-10 miles/day over extremely rough terrain and camp in the backcountry. Students will be expected to present research results at professional conferences, publish research results in peer-reviewed scientific outlets, and assist with preparation of agency reports and grant proposals.

To apply, please email a single PDF file that includes a letter of interest (describing your experience as it relates to this project, and your career goals and goals for graduate school), a CV, transcripts, GRE scores (unofficial copies are fine), and the name and contact information of 3 references to Dr. James Cain at jwcain@nmsu.edu

Review of applications will begin April 15th and will continue until a suitable candidate is found.

Salary: \$24,217 per year + out-of-state tuition waiver