PhD Position - Environmental Science and Rangeland Health

One PhD research assistant position is available (beginning Aug. 2018) for a student interested in the **effects of anthropogenic chemicals on ecosystem function**. The student will work in the laboratories of Dr. Lora Perkins and Dr. A. Joshua Leffler in the Department of Natural Resource Management at South Dakota State University.

The research will focus on the impact of parasiticides used in livestock production on dung beetle populations, nitrogen cycling, and subsequent forage production. The field component of the research will be conducted at Ft. Pierre National Grasslands in central South Dakota. The student will also work closely with a PhD student in Rural Sociology to investigate the decision making process of livestock producers to use or not to use parasiticides. The student is expected to contribute to the broader project, but also develop related research of their own. The assistantship includes a stipend and tuition waiver, and is available for four to five years contingent on satisfactory progress toward the PhD degree. This research is funded by USDA-NIFA.

To apply, send your CV; unofficial transcripts; a letter describing your work and academic experience, research interests, and career goals; and contact information for three professional references to Dr. Lora Perkins (Lora.perkins@sdstate.edu) or Dr. A. Josh Leffler (alan.leffler@sdstate.edu). Applications will be reviewed as they are received.

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