PhD Assistantship, Applied Forest Ecology and Wildlife

The Silviculture and Applied Forest Ecology Lab and the Landscape Ecology and Sustainable Ecosystem Management Lab at Iowa State University (ISU) are jointly seeking a PhD-level graduate student to join a research project investigating wildlife response to silvicultural treatments designed to increase the adaptive capacity of forest ecosystems to climate change and other anticipated stressors. The student will benefit from the opportunity to work on a large, established, long-term experimental study and will have the freedom to develop and pursue questions surrounding the relationships among forest structure, silvicultural treatments, and the responses of forest birds and other taxa. Work will involve collaboration with a team that includes scientists and managers at ISU, the USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station, as well as other universities and organizations.

Ideally, candidates would be available to start in mid-May, 2020, but there may be some flexibility. This position includes a stipend ($24,500/year), health care benefits, and full tuition waiver and will be based at ISU in Ames, Iowa. It will also involve field work in red pine-dominated forest located in northern Minnesota.

Qualifications: M.S. in forestry, wildlife biology, ecology, silviculture, natural resources, conservation biology, environmental science, biology or a closely related field. Previous field and/or extensive outdoor work experience is required.

Application process: Interested applicants should submit a CV, GRE scores, contact information for three references, unofficial transcripts, and a cover letter summarizing relevant experience, research interests, and professional and academic goals to Dr. Miranda Curzon (mcurzon@iastate.edu). Submitted materials should demonstrate effective communication through writing, an ability to work both independently and collaboratively, a passion for natural resources, and a strong work ethic.

If nominated for the position, three letters of reference, official GRE scores, and official transcripts will be required for application to ISU. The process for admission to graduate studies in the Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management is described at https://www.nrem.iastate.edu/admissions. The position is open until filled, but applicants should submit materials prior to November 22, 2020 for full consideration.

For more information about the position or project, please contact Dr. Miranda Curzon (mcurzon@iastate.edu) or Dr. Lisa Schulte-Moore (lschulte@iastate.edu).