

June 15, 2009

Dear Prospective Student:

Throughout each year I receive many inquiries about possible graduate student opportunities in my lab. Based on the volume of inquiries, I have decided it would be in everyone's best interest for me to outline some information for prospective graduate students. I conduct research within the scope of wildlife habitat ecology and habitat restoration ecology and make concerted efforts to bridge aspects of basic and applied science. The studies I design are typically intended to provide inferences for wildlife habitat and population conservation and management issues. Many of my studies involve close involvement with natural resource agencies, industry, and landowners.

I spend considerable effort developing my research program and consequently am looking for potential graduate students with competitive GRE scores ( $\geq 1050$  combined verbal and quantitative;  $\geq 4.0$  analytical writing) and GPA's (3.2 minimum). I expect students to arrive prepared with writing and quantitative abilities; have a strong work ethic; and, willing and capable of working long hours under difficult environmental conditions at field sites. Good communication skills are a must because students are frequently asked to provide presentations, prepare reports, and work with popular media outlets to communicate their research designs and results to study cooperators and the general public.

Occasionally I post graduate opportunities online and will provide instructions to apply. However, if you meet the criteria above and are interested in the type of studies I conduct in my lab I suggest calling me as a first step. At that point I may suggest emailing a PDF containing your resume and contact information so I can learn more about your background and aptitudes. Because funded studies are few, I typically can only accept a few new students each year. Students in my lab earn MS or PhD degrees in Rangeland Ecology and Watershed Management or a PhD in Ecology.

Thank you for your interest in graduate research opportunities with my lab!

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